

Hafa Adai!

Toves: APC machines at Saipan airport not busted. PAGE 2
IPI: Over half-a-billion dollar investment so far. PAGE 3

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 212

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25, 2017

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75¢

Many at hearing said yes to pot bill

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Many of those who attended Monday night's public hearing on a bill to legalize and regulate the use of marijuana in the CNMI expressed overwhelming support for the bill.

Within an hour into the hearing at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Monday night, 13 members of the public voiced their support for Senate Bill 20-62, while only two were against.

See MANY on Page 4

Tropical storm watch cancelled

Tropical Storm 27W moved away from the Marianas after passing near Guam yesterday afternoon.

As of 2pm yesterday, the tropical storm watch for Guam and Rota was canceled as tropical storm conditions were no longer expected, according to the U.S. National Weather Service in Guam.

See STORM on Page 4



ERWIN ENCINARES

A CNMI resident shares their opinion on cannabis regulation and legalization as members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Government and Law listen on Monday night at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

TripAdvisor: NMI tourism growth 'dramatic'

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

The dramatic growth of the CNMI's tourism industry has caught the attention of American travel and restaurant website company TripAdvisor, which is impressed with the numbers the sector has been racking up in the past several years.

"The growth is just dramatic, es-

specially in the past year," said Gary Cheng, TripAdvisor speaker and sales manager for North Asia.

Cheng, who is on Saipan to do a workshop for owners and management representatives of hotels, restaurants, and other tourism-related services, said the number of people from all over the world who are looking at Saipan through TripAdvisor is increasing very rapidly, especially

for markets like China, Hong Kong, Japan, and South Korea.

"The top non-Asian markets that are looking at Micronesia as a whole would be the U.S., Russia, and the U.K. It's definitely growing but not as quickly as the Asian market," he added.

Based on the Marianas Visitors Authority's latest numbers, visitors

See TRIPADVISOR on Page 4

2 get prison time for sex abuse and sexual assault

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A former employee of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was slapped yesterday with a five-year prison term for sexually abusing a

10-year-old girl, while another man was sentenced to 12 years in prison for sexually assaulting a 13-year-old girl.

In separate change of plea hearings yesterday in the Superior Court, See PRISON on Page 4

INSIDE



NATION

A fallen soldier's angry widow joins the stormy dispute with President Donald Trump.

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ASIA

Hong Kong's highest court frees activists Joshua Wong and Nathan Law.

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WORLD

The Islamic State militants came into the Syrian town with a hit list.

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Local



U.S. Customs and Border Protection for NMI director Robert Havens at the arrival area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport where the Automated Passport Control machines are.

BEA CABRERA

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

All Automated Passport Control machines at the arrival area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport are operational, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Barrie Toves.

Toves, who chairs the board's Airport Facilities Committee, was quick to belie-

reports that the machines do not function.

"All seven [machines] are operational. The sign that says 'out of order' is under the direction of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to divert arriving passengers [in the afternoon] to...undergo immigration processing through a CBP officer," he said.

CPA installed the machines last July to speed up the processing time of inbound passengers that go through U.S. Immigration upon entry, especially in the early morning flights when arriving tourists come in the thousands. Afternoon passengers go through the usual immigration processing with a CBP officer.

MVA board member Chris Nelson reported seeing the "out of order" sign on the machines during Monday's board meeting, after arriving from Guam on the 12:10pm flight last Sunday.

"I was at the airport and...there was a sign on every single one of the [machines]," he said.

Toves said that CBP has cited two reasons for not allowing the use of the APCs in the afternoon: one, the number

of arriving passengers in the afternoon flights are manageable and can go directly to a Immigration officer; and two, there are no Saipan airport ambassadors available to assist the APC users.

When there are no "airport ambassadors," U.S. CBP does not allow the use of APCs. Currently, the airport's three airport ambassadors are available only from 1am to 5am, with no one in the afternoon.

"What happens is when the passenger needs assistance at the APC kiosk and there is no ambassador, [U.S. Customs and Border Protection for NMI director Robert] Havens is forced to pull out one of his men from duty to help the passenger when there are a good number of customs officers in the booths that are available," Toves said.

The Marianas Visitors Authority introduced and fielded Saipan airport ambassadors in August to assist passengers through immigration processing and Customs inspections.

Currently, CBP will continue to disallow the use of APC machines in the afternoon unless an airport ambassador is around to assist passengers.

MVA looking for a new site

By BEA CABRERA
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority looking for a new office location that is convenient and accessible, possibly a central location like Garapan.

It's office is currently located in San Jose on Beach Road.

According to MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, the target area for the new MVA office is in Garapan, making it easily accessible to both tourists and residents.

"We are scouting for some areas aside from the Garapan fire station," he said. "The challenge is that public land is limited in the area. Most of the properties in Garapan are privately owned."

Concepcion said there are other options for relocation but they truly want to be in the Garapan area.

"One other option that was mentioned many months ago is that space beside the CNMI Museum across the Sugar King Park. I think having MVA there would be a great option as it would drive traffic into the museum and it's still in Garapan. Tourists come in to get brochures and pamphlets and we can say, 'Check out the new museum.'"

"As far as acquiring the



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"As far as acquiring the

IPI: Over half-a-billion dollar investment so far

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has already invested over half-a-billion dollars in the CNMI economy—the largest by far by any single

foreign investor in the CNMI and validated by a recent report of the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

28th Club 200 this Saturday

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

To raise funds for its many community projects, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter will be hosting what it is touting as its biggest fundraiser of the year, the 28th Annual Club 200.

The event will be held this Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. The event will be a dinner and raffle with a grand prize of \$15,000.

According to ARC-NMI Chapter Emergency Services director J.D. Tenorio, the community is invited to the event. "Folks from all walks of life are welcome to come out and support the event," he said.

The fundraiser is intended to raise money that will go to assisting people through the chapter's many programs, including disaster preparedness response, service to the armed forces, school and community outreach, and more.

The ARC-NMI Chapter

hopes to sell at least 1,200 tickets that will enable it to raise at least \$120,000.

The theme of the night is "By the Sea." Attendees are encouraged to wear nautical-themed costumes, whether as sea creatures or anything related to the sea theme. Tenorio said that guest should expect a party. "It's going to be a lot of fun," he said.

This year, the NMI Chapter will be highlighting local musicians. According to Tenorio, guest will witness live entertainment from the Marianas Music Association.

He said the ARC-NMI Chapter is still open to donations. The final amount of donations will be tallied after the event.

Tickets for the event are currently priced at \$100 each and are available for purchase at the ARC-NMI Chapter's office. The office is also willing to personally deliver tickets. For inquiries, individuals may contact the ARC-NMI Chapter's office at 234-3459.

In a statement yesterday, Imperial Pacific said the BEA report validates the Hong Kong-based investment giant's impact on the massive growth of the islands' real gross domestic product in 2016.

The BEA report stated that the CNMI GDP for 2016 posted an unprecedented 28.6-percent increase, to \$1.24 billion. In 2015, the GDP also grew 3.8 percent to \$933 million.

Citing its latest six-month interim financial report filed with the Hong Kong Stock

Exchange, Imperial Pacific says its total investment for its Garapan property stands at \$506 million.

The federal agency's report separately highlighted how private fixed investment increased by over 60 percent in 2016. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis pointed out how this significant increase reflects the value of Imperial Pacific's casino resort construction, among other construction projects on Saipan.

The government's main tourism agency, the Marianas Visitors Authority, separately reported that the sharp increase in Chinese arrivals is

correlated to the increase in investment amounts, after Chinese investors became particularly interested following the awarding of the casino license to Imperial Pacific, a Chinese-owned investment firm.

At the end of the second quarter of this year, the company had also contributed \$201.6 million directly into local coffers in combined payments of business gross revenue tax, corporate income tax, excise tax, casino license fees, Commonwealth Casino Commission operating fund, donations, and payroll withholding tax.

This is reflected in the just

enacted budget for fiscal year 2018, which at \$212.6 million, is being touted as the largest budget in the history of the CNMI. A huge portion of these funding resources came from taxes and fees contributed by Imperial Pacific, the statement adds.

These taxes and fees paid and contributed by Imperial Pacific meant that more residents found employment, making the company the largest private sector employer.

As a result, public services received additional funding, including extending the life-line of the government's pen-

See IPI on Next Page

9th Circuit judges affirm 30-year prison sentence of ex-firefighter

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the 30-year prison sentence of a former firefighter who had pleaded guilty to sexually exploiting a child.

Ninth Circuit Judges Mary M. Schroeder, Dorothy Wright Nelson, and M. Margaret McKeown ruled that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona did not abuse her discretion in sentencing Richard Sullivan Benavente to 30 years in prison.

Manglona had concluded that Benavente obstructed jus-

tice by lying to the U.S. government and violated his plea agreement when he lied in his testimony at the trial of Raymond Roberto.

Citing a Ninth Circuit precedent, Manglona imposed a two-level sentencing enhancement on Benavente, resulting in his lengthy prison sentence.

In their ruling submitted to the District Court on Monday, the Ninth Circuit judges said that Benavente's sentence was also not unreasonable.

They said Benavente's 360-month sentence was within the guidelines range of 292 to 365 months.

On Feb. 22, 2016, Manglona

sentenced the 45-year-old Benavente to the maximum imprisonment of 30 years after explaining that the defendant repeatedly enticed or coerced two minors into having sex with him in exchange for drugs.

Benavente, through counsel Michael Dotts, appealed to reverse the sentence.

In October 2015, Manglona determined that Benavente

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lied in his testimony at the trial of Roberto, who was then charged with coercion and enticement of some of the same minors that Benavente sexually exploited.

By lying at the Roberto trial, Manglona said, the former firefighter breached his plea agreement with the U.S. government.

Roberto was later acquitted.

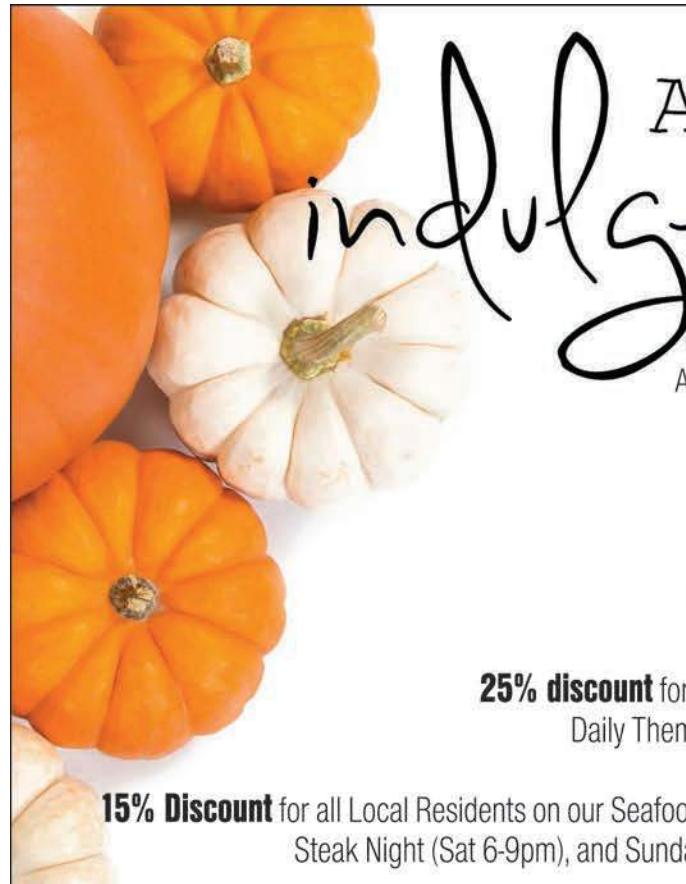
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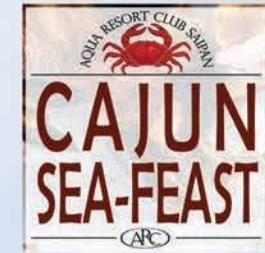
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TRIPADVISOR

From Page 1

arrivals jumped 18 percent in September 2017 compared to September 2016, marking 653,150 total arrivals for fiscal year 2017, a 30-percent increase in arrivals over the prior fiscal year. This is the fourth highest fiscal year arrivals in Marianas history, the record being 726,690 in 1997.

MVA invited TripAdvisor to the CNMI to educate the local tourism industry on how to handle online reputation and how to maximize their marketing pres-

ence through the internet.

TripAdvisor representatives did a workshop at the Kensington Hotel in San Roque yesterday.

MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said that MVA's goal is to train the local tourism industry on how to maintain and keep their marketing presence online.

"It is important to have a positive presence because it reflects the whole CNMI. If there is a bad review in one of the hotels or even at a popular restaurant, that spreads because it's on the internet," he said. "So we want to make

sure they know how to manage their online presence and work so that it benefits them. Travelers these days are very social-media conscious."

The workshop tackled best practices on how to improve customer experience, encourage reviews, and how to be consistent about it.

Cheng said that information is critical and that hotels, restaurants, and other traveler services available on TripAdvisor should make shared information—even as simple as photographs—relevant.

"We are in a digital age. We can't go back in time. At this

particular time, social media is everything. The internet is liberalizing the whole industry, so now the consumers have more say and more control," he said.

TripAdvisor and MVA's partnership began in June this year, when the board approved the MVA management's request to expand its online presence by working with TripAdvisor.

Concepcion believes that hotels and restaurants in the CNMI could compete at a world-class level, where you attract people through marketing while managing your online reputation and content.



TripAdvisor sales manager Gary Cheng leads the workshop yesterday at Kensington Hotel to give hotel and restaurant owners and management representatives ideas on how to manage their online presence through TripAdvisor.

BEA CABRERA

PRISON

From Page 1

former CUC employee Sean Raboy Mendiola, 26, pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, while Mariano M. Satur Jr., 42, pleaded guilty to sexual assault of a minor in the second degree.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Mendiola to eight years in prison, all suspended except for five years.

Mendiola will serve the five years without parole. He was given credit for six days of time served. After serving his sentence, he will be on proba-

tion for 10 years.

In Satur's case, he was sentenced to 15 years in prison, all suspended except for 12 years, to be served without parole, with credit for 72 days of time served. After serving the prison term, Satur will be placed on 10 years of probation.

Govendo allowed Mendiola and Satur to report to the Department of Corrections on Nov. 2 at 8am to start serving their sentences.

Mendiola and Satur must register with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry and stay away from their respective victims during their probation.

The defendants were required to pay a fine, court

cost, and probation fee, and complete any recommended counseling or treatment by the Community Guidance Center.

During their probation, the defendants are not allowed to have any contact with the victims and have no unsupervised contacts with minors.

Assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio, counsel for the government, said that in April 2016 Mendiola sexually abused a 10-year-old girl on Saipan.

Tenorio said at the time, Mendiola was 25 years old.

In Satur's case, Tenorio said that on March 19, 2017, Satur sexually assaulted a 13-year-old girl on Saipan.

Tenorio said Satur was 41 years old at that time.

As part of the plea deal, the prosecutor dismissed the remaining charges against the defendants.

In Mendiola's case, the girl's mother told police that Mendiola asked her to forgive him for touching the privates of her daughter.

In Satur's case, police said the victim's brother stated that his 13-year-old sister had confided to him that Satur sexually assaulted her.

Chief prosecutor Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Mendiola, while assistant public defender Nancy Dominski represented Satur.

STORM

From Page 1

A hazardous seas warning remained in effect in the Marianas until 10pm last night. A small craft advisory will be in effect from 10pm last night until 6pm tomorrow, Wednesday. There is a moderate risk of lightning the next few days.

With maximum sustained winds of 45 miles per hour, Tropical Storm 27W was moving northwest at 17 miles per hour, heading out into the

open Philippine Sea.

The U.S. National Weather Service in Guam said last night that Tropical Storm 27W has been named Saola.

As of 1pm yesterday, the tropical storm's center was 130 miles west-southwest of Guam, 180 miles southwest of Rota, 240 miles southwest of Tinian, and 255 miles southwest of Saipan.

The tropical storm is forecast to intensify slowly in the next few days and may become a typhoon by Thursday.

For Guam and Rota, southeast winds of up to 35

miles per hour were expected through 10pm Tuesday. Surf was dangerous Tuesday night along east and south facing reefs.

Seas will remain hazardous for operators of small craft through 6pm Wednesday.

Recreational boasters should remain in port or take shelter until waves subside. Commercial vessels should prepare for rough seas and consider remaining in port or taking shelter in port until hazardous seas subside.

The small craft advisory means that winds up to 25

knots and seas of 10 to 13 feet will produce conditions hazardous for operators of small craft. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessel, should avoid sailing in these conditions.

Aa high surf warning indicates that dangerous battering waves will pound the shoreline. This will result in life-threatening conditions. Stay away from exposed reefs and beaches, especially those facing east and south, as rip currents will be life threatening. (Ferdie de la Torre)

consumers are looking for—genuine content. Even if you don't pay but you get genuine content, that's better than you paying for irrelevant content," he said.

Concepcion said that MVA will continue to keep the CNMI in the know on how tourism marketing is being managed around the world.

"I think it's good that the CNMI gets in the groove in the way things are handled in the tourism industry today. This way, it will [mandate] businesses to keep improving their products, which is good overall for the CNMI," Concepcion said.

MANY

From Page 1

A common denominator for those who supported the bill cited several health benefits of the plant, including claims that it alleviates the pain of cancer treatment and those with rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis; eases epileptic seizures, helps patients with post-traumatic stress disorder; slows the progression of Alzheimer's, and more.

According to Laura Muñá, marijuana alleviates her daughter's pain from cerebral palsy and epilepsy.

"She had these chronic illnesses since she was 2 years old," she said, adding that her daughter is currently taking five medicines twice a day.

Muñá said her daughter experiences at least two seizures every day. Upon moving to the U.S. mainland with her daughter to seek medical attention from a neurosurgeon, Muñá learned from magnetic resonance imaging scans, or MRI scans, and computerized tomography scans, or CT scans, that her daughter had cysts in her brain.

"The doctor said he could perform the surgery but it's going to be risky for her because it is a 50/50 chance for survival," she said, adding that she declined the surgeon's offer to operate.

"I am hoping and praying for a miracle to come that will eliminate her pain and suffering," said Muñá. "I ask you for the support of this bill for the betterment of the ill."

A U.S. Army veteran, Martin Ezra Teregeyo, who said

he has served in Iraq twice, said at the public hearing that marijuana alleviates his PTSD. He claimed that it is only through smoking marijuana that he tempers his suicidal tendencies.

"I have been through a lot... but when I smoke that joint, it just makes me relax," he said.

Dr. John Doyle, who supported the bill, emphasized the importance of regulating and enforcing the law. Since the plant is currently considered illegal, marijuana dealers do not have anything to enforce—no age limit or amount restrictions—both provisions that are embedded in Sen. Sixto Igisomar's (R-Saipan) S.B. 20-62.

Kristo Rai Church pastor Rev. Fr. Ken Hezel opposed marijuana legalization, citing a study that links the plant to psychosis.

"...Teenage cannabis use hastens the onset of schizophrenia in vulnerable individuals," he said, reading from a research material. "I'm concerned for the youth; that is my main concern and how it affects the youth."

About 50 people signed up for the public hearing last Monday.

Igisomar's S.B. 20-62 is no longer just about medical marijuana; it seeks to legalize and regulate the use of cannabis in the CNMI. The bill consists of more than 50 pages. Although written as a bill, it is also somewhat akin to a popular initiative. If passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, it will then be presented to voters on the ballot in the 2018 election.

IPI

From Page 3

sion plan. This was previously at risk of being depleted due to the lack of funding.

The CNMI has nearly 3,000 retirees that depend on the government's retirement program. Contributions made by IPI prolonged the like of the pension plan.

Under the approved new government spending plan, \$56 million was allocated to retirees and \$45 million of which was directly funneled to the Settlement Fund for the minimum annual payment of benefits.

Public education continues to receive additional funding, as well as hospital and medical care, among others public services. (*Saipan Tribune*)

OGM secures \$140K grant for CHCC

The Office of Grants Management under the Office of the Governor has obtained a \$140,000 grant for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

According to press secretary Kevin Bautista, CHCC would

MES awarded \$290K two-year grant

The Micronesian Environmental Services has just been awarded a \$290,000 two-year award by the NOAA Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program.

This grant supplements funds from the NOAA Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center provided since 2010 to support the MES Biosampling Program.

MES, a Saipan-based environmental consulting firm founded in 1994, works with Saipan fresh fish vendors to measure fish, identify species catch composition, and collect landings data and life history samples on reef fish.

The program has measured more than 207,844 reef fish and examined 2,835 individual spear-fishing catches. It has also collected more than 13,486 otoliths (fish ear bones) and gonad (reproductive organs) samples from 21 reef fish species that are an important local food source.

Otoliths help determine the age of fish, while gonads reveal their sex and maturity.

Data from the biosampling program has provided the basis for several published scientific papers on Saipan reef fish.

The SK grant provides equipment, training and staff support needed to process and analyze a backlog of otoliths and gonads.

Federal and local fishery scientists and managers, including the Division of Fish and Wildlife will use the data to identify important life history characteristics in the commercial catches and how these characteristics relate to each other. DFW can then use this information to determine whether a particular species needs additional management measures.

The current MES Biosampling Program staff includes program manager Tony Flores, data manager Manny Ramon, and fishery lab technicians George B. Salas Jr., Lucio Kalen, Princess "Max" Garcia and Tony Camacho. PIFSC staff members Kimberly Lowe, Michael Trianni and Brett Taylor provide technical oversight. DFW staff members Michael Tenorio and Trey Dunn have collaborated with the program. John Gourley is the principal and owner of MES. (PR)

use the funds to buy what is called as an Alaris I.V., a type of infusion pump that delivers fluids, medications, blood, and

more to patients.

"When the [money] came in through the OGM, OGM administrator Epiphany Cabrera

was able to work with hospital administrator Jesse Tudela to set the paperwork and procure the necessary items for the

hospital," said Bautista. "The governor has prioritized the allotment for this since May."

The Commonwealth Health

Center, which is run by CHCC, has about 10 Alaris I.V. units that are considered outdated. (Erwin Encinarens)



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2014 Ford Fiesta SE

Stk# EM150413

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 1.6 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 22809

Color: Oxford White

\$10,895



2016 Kia Rio LX

Stk# G6576282

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 1.6 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 18026

Color: Platinum Graphite

\$13,995



2015 Kia Forte EX

Stk# F5359703

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 2.0 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 20010

Color: Aurora Black

\$14,495



2015 Kia Forte EX

Stk# F5398749

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 2.0 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 3865

Color: Metal Stream

\$15,895



2012 Hyundai Tuscon GLS AWD

Stk# CU527659

Drivetrain: AWD

Engine: 2.4 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 23620

Color: Mercury Blue

\$15,995



2016 Kia Sportage LX

Stk# G7855268

Drivetrain: AWD

Engine: 2.4 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 6677

Color: Silver

\$19,795



2014 Ford Escape SE

Stk# EU67717

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 1.6 Liter Ecoboost

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 12644

Color: Ruby Red

\$19,995



2016 Kia Sportage EX

Stk# G7840712

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 2.4 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 19778

Color: Black

\$21,795



2017 Kia Sportage LX

Stk# H71962822

Drivetrain: AWD

Engine: 2.4 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 3787

Color: Clear White

\$22,995



2017 Nissan Rogue SV

Stk# HW380800

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 2.5 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 8493

Color: Palatial Red

\$23,695



2013 Nissan Maxima SV Sport

Stk# DC816012

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 3.5 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 20568

Color: Brilliant Silver

\$24,995



2014 Nissan Murano SL

Stk# EW411794

Drivetrain: FWD

Engine: 3.5 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 26886

Color: Gun Metallic

\$24,995



2016 Nissan Frontier SV VTP Crew Cab

Stk# GN700090

Drivetrain: 4WD

Engine: 4.0 Liter

Transmission: Automatic

Est. Mileage: 6924

Color: Night Armor

\$28,995



2010 Ford F150 SVT

Talks continue on tourist impact on Grotto

As discussions continue regarding the tourist impact management of the Grotto, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, and the Marianas Visitors Authority have decided to implement a ticketing station for entrance to Grotto and fully enforce tour operator certification.

According to Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente, a public announcement regarding ticketing will be issued to the public soon.

The Grotto User Capacity Survey is still ongoing and preliminary results were discussed between the agencies.

"Majority of survey respondents have suggested a trial limit of 20 to 40 people in the water at the Grotto at any one time. This is to be adjusted over time, based on our rangers observing how well this number accommodates users, while addressing public safety concerns.

"However, we are still

seeking more input from the Department of Public Safety Boating Safety, other first responders, and our dive operators. Access for photo opportunities was discussed and could be allowed at a designated time when divers and snorkelers are not so prevalent.

"It was found that rangers could control entry at the top of the stairs, allowing people to descend in groups of two, only allowing the next pair to descend once the first pair reached a certain point safely beyond," Benavente said.

Benavente noted that the user capacity survey results are not finalized and encourages members of the public to continue to provide their input.

MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion noted that MVA procurement has made some improvements to the specifications for an upgraded entrance gate to Grotto. Construction is expected to start within the coming weeks.

DLNR, MVA, and BECQ agreed that the user fee should be under the control

of DLNR with infrastructure improvements and litter control coordinated between the three agencies.

Acting Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality administrator Eliceo Cabrera said the consumption of food and beverages will also be prohibited to curb further littering.

"In our experience with maintenance under Parks and Recreation, we have seen an increase in littering. The positive thing is that these recommendations from the surveys will go far in lessening tourist impact," Cabrera said.

Benavente added that it was agreed that it would be beneficial to use a ticketing system along to control traffic, with each visitor being provided with an informational brochure describing Grotto's rules and regulations before entering. He said the MVA is also creating a safety booklet that will be translated and distributed to tourists when they arrive at the site or through the tour operators.

Certification program

MVA noted that the tour operator's certification program began on Monday, Oct. 23, at the Northern Marianas College with positive numbers. The program's courses are offered through a staggered schedule to accommodate tour operator schedules," Concepcion noted.

"NMC and MVA will work together to make sure agents are in compliance and classes will be offered quarterly for new operators," Benavente said.

Concepcion said the tour operator manual is nearly complete and that a digital version will be made so course materials will be continually improved and to reflect future revisions of rules and regulations.

The certification program will be offered in several modules, each ending with an aptitude test that will cover DLNR, BECQ, and MVA regulations and enforcement requirements.

"The program is currently ongoing with the first batch

of registrants already starting courses. As of Monday, we have 113 individual tour guides and 22 tour operators. We are very thankful to NMC for their flexible scheduling and for accommodating operational schedules," Concepcion noted.

He underscored the significance of the program because it will allow MVA and the CNMI government to efficiently regulate the CNMI tourism industry for years to come.

"As our tourism industry continues to grow, it is the goal of MVA and this administration to improve the quality of our tourists. Attracting more quality tourists can only be done when we have certified tour guide operators and government regulators who can better educate our visitors on our island's unique and world-class environmental resources," he added.

As proposed under draft regulations, individual tour guides will also be required to provide police and traffic clearance. The application fee for individual tour guides is \$50, and tour guides will be

required to display their badges when conducting tours. The certification will be valid for three years unless revoked or suspended, and the badge must be renewed every year.

Enforcement and next steps

DLNR and BECQ will schedule a joint enforcement meeting with all agencies that have rules and regulations governing tour operations and customer conduct. MVA will begin construction of the gate within the coming weeks, while DLNR will meet with dive operators to discuss nighttime access to Grotto and ticketing with the CNMI Treasury under the Department of Finance.

To provide feedback for the Grotto User Capacity Survey, log on to <http://gov.mp/2017/09/11/public-input-sought-for-grotto-user-capacity-survey/> or <https://goo.gl/3vDjic>.

For more information on the tour operation certification program, contact MVA tour guide certification manager Kuen-Hee Han at khan@mymarianas.com or 664-3200. (PR)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB 18-DPS-007**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2017 TIME: 10:00A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TEN (10) CLASS "I" VEHICLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, PATROL SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER, DPS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
NMHC RFP 2017-006**

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2017 TIME: 10:00 AM

"FAIR HOUSING AND ACCESSIBILITY TRAINING"

Proposal packets will be available on Friday, October 13, 2017, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAIC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

For more information, contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Serman, Procurement Officer, at (670) 234-6866/9447 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Ignacio L. Perez
Board Chairman

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP18-CHCC/CGC-002**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2017 TIME: 9:00AM

"CHCC SOUTHERN CLINIC REPAIR, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2017 AT 9:00AM, ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND TO VIEW THE SPACE AND MAY TAKE MEASUREMENTS AND/OR ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Instructors Wanted

Guam Marianas Training Center is currently looking for Instructors (Daytime or Nighttime/Part-Time Positions only) for the following programs:

Business Technology:

1. Accounting & Bookkeeping w/ QuickBooks Instructor
2. Bank Teller Certificate Instructor
3. Basic Computer Instructor
4. Microsoft Excel Instructor
5. Mandarin Language Instructor

Requirements:

- Technical Credentials (Current License) in the discipline that you teach.
- Minimum one (1) year experience as an instructor in the discipline
- Minimum three (3) years in the practice of the discipline

Salary Commensurate with Experience
Please Submit Resume to:
Unit # 105 Pangelinan Bldg., Chalan LauLau
Middle Road, Saipan 96950
Or Email to: gmmmsinc@gumam.net
No Phone Calls Please.

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: <http://www.cpa.gov.mp>

**AMENDED
INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO.: CPA-IFB-001-18**

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2017 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) UNIT 2017 PICK-UP TRUCK/4DOOR6CYL/4WD, AUTO TRANSMISSION, A/C, POWER WINDOWS/DOORSWHITE COLOR, ALL OTHER FEATURES AS PER FACTORY SPECS. LOCKABLE FITTED BED TOOL BOX TO BE INCLUDED.

THE UNIT IS FOR THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE ORIGINAL BID AND 2 COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "**PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-18**". BIDDERS SHALL GUARANTEE DELIVERY OF THE VEHICLE TO CPA TINIAN WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM AWARD OF THIS BID. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BID SHALL BE IN WRITING AND SEND VIA EMAIL TO atudela@cpa.gov.mp prior to October 20, 2017.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 540-50-1020 AND 540-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: _____

ELIZABETH T. SANTOS
P.O. BOX 506557
Saipan, MP 96950
(670) 287-1463

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ELIZABETH)
TORRES-SANTOS,) FCD-DJ-CIVIL
Petitioner,) ACTION
vs.) NO. 17-0400
JEFF P. SANTOS,) Respondent,
)

To: **Respondent, Jeff Santos**

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to **Elizabeth T. Santos, whose address is P.O. Box 506557, Saipan, MP 96950** as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2017.
/s/ Clerk of Court

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Monday, October 30, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1) September 28, 2017 – Regular Meeting
 - 2) October 5, 2017 – Special Meeting
 - 3) October 21, 2017 – Special Meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORTS
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Casino Licenses
 - b. Casino Service Industry Licenses
 - 1) Matsui Asia, Ltd. ED Recommendation No. ED2017-05.CSI
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
- V. LICENSING MATTERS
 - a) Casino Licenses
 - b) Casino Service Industry Licenses
 - 1) Matsui Asia, Ltd. ED Recommendation No. ED2017-06.CSI(e)
- VI. KEY EMPLOYEE LICENSES/HOTEL REGISTRATIONS
 - 1) Shigeki Machida, Managing Director, Matsui Asia, Ltd. ED Recommendation No. ED2017-06.CSI(e)
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VIII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

¹Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

²Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Scheduled power outage today

There will be a scheduled power interruption today, Oct. 25, 2017, from 5am to 10am. Areas to be affected include the Puerto Rico Industrial Dr., Petroleum Ln., Commercial Port Av., Harbor Ln. (Smiling Cove Marina, U.S. Army Reserve, Seaport, Shell Marianas, Mobil Oil Marianas, and Saipan Stevedore), and Lower Base Sea Plane Ramp PI. (CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife and Saipan Submarine). The S-3 wastewater lift station will be affected. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. (CUC)

CNMI Next Top Chef competition

The CNMI Next Top Chef 2017 invites interested chefs to register for the competition on Nov. 9, 2017, at 6pm at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Tickets are now on sale for \$50/person including the live cooking competition, full buffet dinner, and raffle. For a chef entry form or tickets, contact Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation at 235-2340 or emptyvesselministry@gmail.com. Jointly organized with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, the event will benefit the Empty

Vessel Ministry. (PR)

Free presentation, workshops on oral history

Rlene Santos Steffy, an ethnographer and oral history practitioner, will be holding a two-day oral history workshop at Kagman High School today, Oct. 25, and tomorrow, Oct. 26, beginning at 8:45am. Both events are free and open to the public. (PR)

Military training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times:

- Oct. 25, from 8:30am to 8pm
- Oct. 27, from 10:30am to 10pm

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. (PR)

Casting call for FOA Christmas show

The ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society will stage Charles Dickens's

A Christmas Carol. The auditions will be held at the Marianas High School today, Oct. 25, starting at 6pm. Show dates will be Dec. 15, 16, and 17. For more information, contact Marilou at 256-9540 or email saipanfoa@gmail.com, subject line: Christmas Show. (PR)

OVR to host Employer Forum

The State Rehabilitation Council and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, in partnership with San Diego State University Research Foundation's Interwork Institute, will be conducting their triennial "Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment Project" with employers today, Oct. 25, 2017,

from 1pm to 2:30pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. If you have any questions, email Joseph B. Roberto at jroberto@ovrgov.net or contact OVR at 322-6537 or 322-6538. (PR)

Free 'Personal Finance 101' seminar

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will be offering a free business seminar on Saipan, "Personal Finance 101," at the Commonwealth Development Authority boardroom this Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017, from 8:30am to 10am. It will be presented by Marvin

Deleon Guerrero, BankPacific's assistant vice president and Saipan branch manager. To register, contact the Small Business Development Center at 664-3018 or register online at <http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events>. (PR)

Free entrepreneurship training

The Latte Training Academy is inviting aspiring entrepreneurs to attend their first free training on "Making Your Dream Into a Success," today, Oct. 25, at the Latte Training Academy Lab (third floor,

Marianas Business Plaza). This training is being held as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Enterprise Grant program. To register or for more information, visit www.lattetrainingacademy.com/events. (PR)

CNMI-OSHA outreach training on Saipan

The CNMI-OSHA Consultation Program will be conducting a free outreach training on Saipan on Thursday, Oct. 26, starting at 9am, at the CNMI-OSHA Consultation Office training room.

Private sector employers interested in learning about OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting requirements are invited to participate. Seats are limited, so call Elaine Pangelinan at 664-3156 or email to Elaine.pangelinan@gmail.com to reserve your seats.

Outreach training for Rota and Tinian will be announced at a later date.

This program is voluntary, is not required by OSHA, and does not meet the training requirements of OSHA standards. (PR)

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Saipan Community School's team for the Primary Grade Forensics Competition did an outstanding job at the most recent PGFC held on Oct. 7.

SCS started competing for the first time last school year and continues to place well in the top spots. Congratulations to all students, parents and coaches for your dedication and hard work!

KINDERGARTEN TO 2ND GRADE DIVISION

Readers Forum Novice:

2nd Place: Mickaela Yang

3RD TO 5TH GRADE DIVISION

Readers Forum B:

1st Place: David Park
4th Place: Eugene So
5th Place: David Ye

Readers Forum C:

1st Place: Jenny Zhang
3rd Place: Jason Kim
5th Place: Verica He

Readers Forum Masters A:

HONOR ROLL

Saipan Community School's Honor List for the first quarter of school year 2017/2018:

PRINCIPALS LIST: 4.00

Katie Choi - 7th grade
Angel Ren - 7th grade
Xin Yue (Moon) Zeng - 8th grade
Tina Zhen - 8th grade

"A" HONOR ROLL: 3.50 to 3.99

(No grades below B)
Isaiah Alekseenko - 6th grade
Paul William Camacho II - 6th grade
Jung Hyun (Olivia) Hwang - 6th grade
Hui Yun (Joshua) Park - 6th grade
Camille Sablan - 6th grade
One An - 7th grade
Seo Young Baek 7th grade
Miles Borja - 7th grade
Tiana Cabrera - 7th grade
Grace Ju - 7th grade
Dongyeon (Daniel) Kang - 7th grade
Sieun Michelle Ryu - 7th grade
Hyun Ah Cloie Seo - 7th grade
Sedrei Camacho - 8th grade
Jun Beom (Chris) Kim - 8th grade
Seung Won Lee - 8th grade
Shu Qi Wu - 8th grade
Haonan Zhou - 8th grade

"B" HONOR ROLL: 3.00 to 3.49

(No grades below C)
Hyeyoon (Helen) Kim - 6th grade
Martin Hui Tai Park - 6th grade
Tiana Torres - 6th grade
Anika Camacho - 7th grade
Grace Kim - 7th grade
Amena Mahmud - 7th grade
Charles (Charlie) McDonald III - 7th grade
Hana Ojima - 7th grade
Jung Hyoun (Rina) Park - 7th grade
Jesus Ramon Sablan - 7th grade
Paul Ham - 8th grade
Erica Kim - 8th grade
Sean Sung Mook Lee - 8th grade

SCS students gain success at PGFC

1st Place: Joan Song
2nd Place: Joshua Yoo
5th Place: Soarin Oh

Readers Forum Masters B:

1st Place: Katrina Wu
2nd Place: Raina Park

Readers Forum Masters C:

1st Place: Sheryne Yang

Humorous Interpretation A:

1st Place: Joan Song
2nd Place: David Park
3rd Place: Hilah Bacani



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Community School's team for the Primary Grade Forensics Competition did an outstanding job at the most recent PGFC held on Oct. 7.

4th Place: Katrina Wu
5th Place: Jii Lee

Dramatic Interpretation A:

1st Place: Lola Guerrero
2nd Place: Raina Park

Impromptu C:

1st Place: Jii Lee

SCS coaches: Emily Santos, Debbie Flores, and Joel Freeman (SCS)

in Impromptu, with Goodwin right behind in third place. Christina Kim won the third-place ribbon in the Dramatic Interpretation category.

Reigning NJSDA Original Oratory champion Dane Hodges earned a second-place finish in Humorous Interpretation, followed closely by Cevina Hwang, who finished third. Hwang also placed third in Storytelling, while Hodges placed fifth in Declamation.

The Geckos' Sydney Lim pulled in a second place showing in the Prose Masters category and garnered third in Poetry Masters, while Mylan Goodwin finished fourth in Poetry Masters. Shamanaeva placed second

Congratulations on the many fine performances by the SIS Geckos speech and debate team! (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Saipan International School speech and debate team.

At the high school level, pion Shea Hartig won her current CNMI debate cham-

pion Shea Hartig won her second straight competition,

GMS Falcons continue to fly high



Green Meadow School students pose with their teacher-coaches.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Parents of 5th graders of Green Meadow School are already excited for the upcoming regional meet of the Primary Grade Forensic Competition after the GMS team did well at the PGFC last Oct. 7 at the Oleai Elementary School.

"Wow! We won two first place in Choral Speaking, two in a row," one of the GMS students, Jasmyne Tolentino, exclaimed after the winners' list was posted.

With all GMS fifth graders already qualified to join the

PGFC regionals, parents of second graders are also looking forward to the next event.

Teacher-coaches like Ana Liza Quiambao, Jason Aia, Aida Marcelo, Analyn Danan, Meliza Umali, Bona Angeles, and Rosalie Habijan are making sure that all participants are ready by practicing each student after school hours.

Milagros Songcuan, GMS president and principal, said the GMS administration, teachers, and staff are determined to help these young

speakers to achieve their goals.

Below is the list of winners at the Oct. 7 meet:

K-2 DIVISION

Choral Speaking:

1st place: Nicole Acaba, Rihanna de Leon, Rochelle de Leon, Isabella Mallari, Alexia Rubia (2nd Grade)

3rd place: Jacie Heart Quindoza, Cassandra Arielle Drilon, Brielle Malonzo, Caydince Raine Masga, Kierstian Vincent Sandico (1st Grade)

4th place: Rhett Agbayani, Sander Guerzon, Jericho Hinolan, Angelo La-

rin, Christopher Sablan (2nd Grade)

Dramatic Interpretation:

1st place: Nicole Acaba (2nd Grade)

5th place: Jasper Alfred Shem Cabobas (1st Grade)

Humorous Interpretation:

4th place: Nathaniel Coloma (Kinder 5)

Reader's Forum A:

5th place: Jamie Palabay (Kinder 5)

Reader's Forum B:

3rd place: Shawn Philipp Montoya (Kinder 5)

Reader's Forum Master's A:

3rd place: Ryoga Kaya (1st Grade)

Reader's Forum Master's C:

2nd place: Rihanna De Leon (2nd Grade)

3rd place: Kierstian Vincent Sandico (1st Grade)

Impromptu B:

3rd place: Angielea Isabel Anda (1st Grade)

Impromptu C:

5th place: Thaddaeus Tolentino (1st Grade)

Duo Interpretation:

1st place: Alexia Rubia and Jericho Hinolan (2nd Grade)

2nd place: Rochelle De Leon and Isabella Mallari (2nd Grade)

3rd place: Angielea Isabel Anda and Lorraine Angela Cosmo (1st Grade)

4th place: Kyle Khaled Ladia and Paul Andrei Bernardo (1st Grade)

3-5 DIVISION

Choral Speaking:

1st place: Chealzka Navarro, John Enrico Cavinta, Raiden Roquela, Jasmyne Tolentino, Buien Joseph Din (5th Grade)

2nd place: Tristan Yanto, Jonathan Borja, Cody Ryan Santos, Jealexiz Torres, Carly Kate Dela Cruz (3rd Grade)

3rd place: Solana Arro Hunter, Samuel Lino Cabrera, Samantha Mangalinao, Chris Vecina, Carmelo Guillermo Banzagale (5th Grade)

4th place: Iyanah Ranin, Vimarie Alfeche, Anna Julia Dalusung, Paula Bernardo, Kaitlyn Alexa Drilon (3rd Grade)

5th place: Alexa Ralene Pangani-ban, Jillian Jade Concepcion, John Darryl Tutuy (3rd Grade)

Duo Interpretation:

3rd place: Gwen Denise Lagmay and Ezra Alfred (4th Grade)

4th place: John Edsel Hinolan and Jake Regalado (4th Grade)

5th place: Samantha Mangalinao and Jasmyne Tolentino (5th Grade)

Two slots still open for CNMI Next Top Chef contest



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Variety publisher Laila Y. Boyer, front right, is joined by members of the CNMI Next Top Chef 2017 organizing committee at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in announcing the newspaper's sponsorship on Oct. 6, 2017. Proceeds of the event on Nov. 9, 2017, at Fiesta Resort will benefit the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation.

The CNMI Next Top Chef competition is now registering interested chefs, cooks, and interested community members for the event on Nov. 9, 2017, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Top prizes are \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place, and \$300 for third.

This year's competition, the 2nd Top Chef organized by charitable organization Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, will feature 12 chef teams in a competition somewhat similar to the *Chopped* television show. It will feature live demonstrations on stage in three rounds: appetizers, main entrée, and dessert.

Overall, this is the fifth time that Empty Vessel is holding the Top Chef contest.

Entry forms are available from EVM at emptyvesselministry@gmail.com or at their office on Middle Road, Gualo Rai. Entry is \$50 and will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"We strongly encourage interested individuals to register as soon as possible, as we will

be having a chefs' meeting very soon to discuss rules and procedures," said Top Chef organizing committee chair Catherine Perry. "We are looking forward to building on the success and excitement of last year's show, and we thank all of our sponsors for coming together for this worthy cause."

All proceeds will benefit the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation. Individuals who purchase a ticket to the CNMI Next Top Chef 2017 will be able to attend the live competition, enjoy a "Pacific Paradise"-theme prepared by HANMI-member hotels, and participate in a raffle drawing.

Tickets are \$50/person. "EVM appreciates HANMI members and the committee for hosting our meetings on a weekly basis in planning the event. We thank as well the contestants and sponsors for being part of the event," said EVM director Rose Smith. "We are looking forward to an exciting and fun event, and we are forever grateful."

Presenting HANMI member hotels are: Aqua Resort Club Saipan, Aquarius Beach Tower, Century Hotel, Coral

Ocean Golf Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Kanoa Resort Saipan, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, Pacific Islands Club, and Saipan World Resort.

Collaborating partners are the Northern Marianas Trades Institute and Kagman High School culinary class.

Gold-level sponsors are the Marianas Visitors Authority, IT&E, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC.

Wushin Corp. is a silver-level sponsor.

Bronze sponsors are Docomo Pacific, Micronesian Brokers, Let's Go! Tour, and Pacific Wines & Spirits.

Additional sponsors are Triple J Five Star Wholesale, PTI, Joeten Shopping Center, National Office Supply, Micronesian Brokers, Philippine Airlines, Pacifica Insurance, Pacific Trading Co., H-Hart, Marianas Variety, KCNM-KZMI, Tools of the Trade, Hertz Car Rental, Aon Insurance, Century Tours, Century Insurance, Chung Nam Corp., Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, FHP Saipan/TakeCare, Gree Air-Conditioning, Island Training Solutions, Japan Water System, JC Marketing Inc., Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc., Natasha Service Center, National Office Supply, Pacific Home Appliance, Pacific Saipan Inc./One Pacific, PEGS LLC/Pacific, Saint Trading Co., Seatouch, S.P.E. (Saipan) Inc., V-Kool Advanced Window Film Technology, Stars & Stripes Cruises in Paradise, I Love Saipan, KKMP, Saipan Tribune, KSPN2, and Power 99.

Corporations and individuals interested in donating to the event or purchasing tickets may contact EVM at 235-2340 or 483-0162. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy first birthday to our boy, Animu Osongel! May the Lord continue to bless you. With love, your family.



CNMI DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE



FREE Small Business Development Workshops

UNDERSTANDING TAXES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES



Friday, October 27th, 2017

9:00am—10:00am



Location: CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose

Presented by: Ernst & Young (EY)

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. One of the Big 4 auditing firms, the insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in the economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, our clients and for our communities. The EY Saipan Office was established in 1993 and provides a wide variety of auditing, consulting and tax services to business throughout Saipan and Micronesia. We serve most of the large private businesses and hotels in Saipan.

Your presenters: Shamika Ratwatte, CPA & Andrea Hofsneider, CPA—Ernst & Young

Shamika is a U.S. CPA with over 7 years of professional experience in providing assurance and advisory services to clients in Guam and the CNMI. Shamika has an MBA in Accounting from Hawaii Pacific University. He is the Treasurer of the both the Rotary Club of Saipan and the Marianas Tourism Education Council. He is Co-Chair of the Education Council of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Andrea is a U.S. CPA with over 4 years of professional experience in public accounting providing tax and assurance services to clients in the San Francisco Bay Area and the CNMI. Andrea has a Master of Accountancy from Golden Gate University. She is a member of Saipan Young Professionals, a committee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Both Shamika and Andrea have in-depth knowledge of US GAAP, and local knowledge of CNMI business norms, taxes and regulations. They are based in Saipan and have experience in serving most of the largest private sector businesses in the CNMI which are clients of EY.

YOUR PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS



Limited Seating. Register now at: pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com

For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018

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CNMI DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE



FREE Small Business Development Workshops

PERSONAL FINANCE 101

Thursday, October 26th, 2017

8:30am—10:00am

Location: CDA Board Room, 1st Floor, San Jose



Presented by:

Marvin Deleon Guerrero,
AVP-Saipan Branch Manager

This is a great course for people who want to learn how to manage their personal finances. Topics covered in this course include analyzing spending habits, setting clear financial goals, learning different budgeting options, discussing debt repayment choices, and background on investing options. Each of these topics helps to build a strong foundation for good money management.

Marvin Deleon Guerrero holds 13 years of banking experience. He started his banking career in 2004 at Bank of Saipan then moved on to join BankPacific, Ltd in January 2017. At BankPacific, Marvin serves as the Assistant Vice-President and Saipan Branch Manager. His overall experience in banking include various areas in operations, such as front line and back office work, anti-money laundering compliance, as well as consumer, commercial, and real estate/mortgage lending.

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For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC at 670-664-3018

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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 212

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Keeping Spain intact

The crisis in Catalonia has gone from simmer to steady boil. Spain's government threatens to take emergency steps to end a bid by secessionists in the country's wealthiest province to break away. The Catalan leader behind the separatist drive isn't backing down and warns that regional lawmakers are poised to formally endorse secession. Without a cool-down, a European Union nation of 46 million people could be on a path toward civil conflict. How did the home to sunny Barcelona and the beaches of Costa Brava get into this mess?

Breaking away from Spanish rule has been on the minds of Catalans for 300 years. Catalans have their own language and culture, and many don't see themselves as Spanish. Today, the region enjoys a degree of autonomy. But Catalans complain that, as Spain's richest region, they pay to Madrid more in taxes than they get back. On Oct. 1, Catalans overwhelmingly voted in favor of secession.

Was it really overwhelming? Turnout was just 42 percent. Spain's Supreme Court had previously declared the vote unconstitutional and therefore illegal. As a result, large numbers of Catalan people who oppose independence opted not to vote; they viewed the referendum as a sham. A week after the vote, hundreds of thousands of defiant Catalans filled the streets of Barcelona, demonstrating against independence.

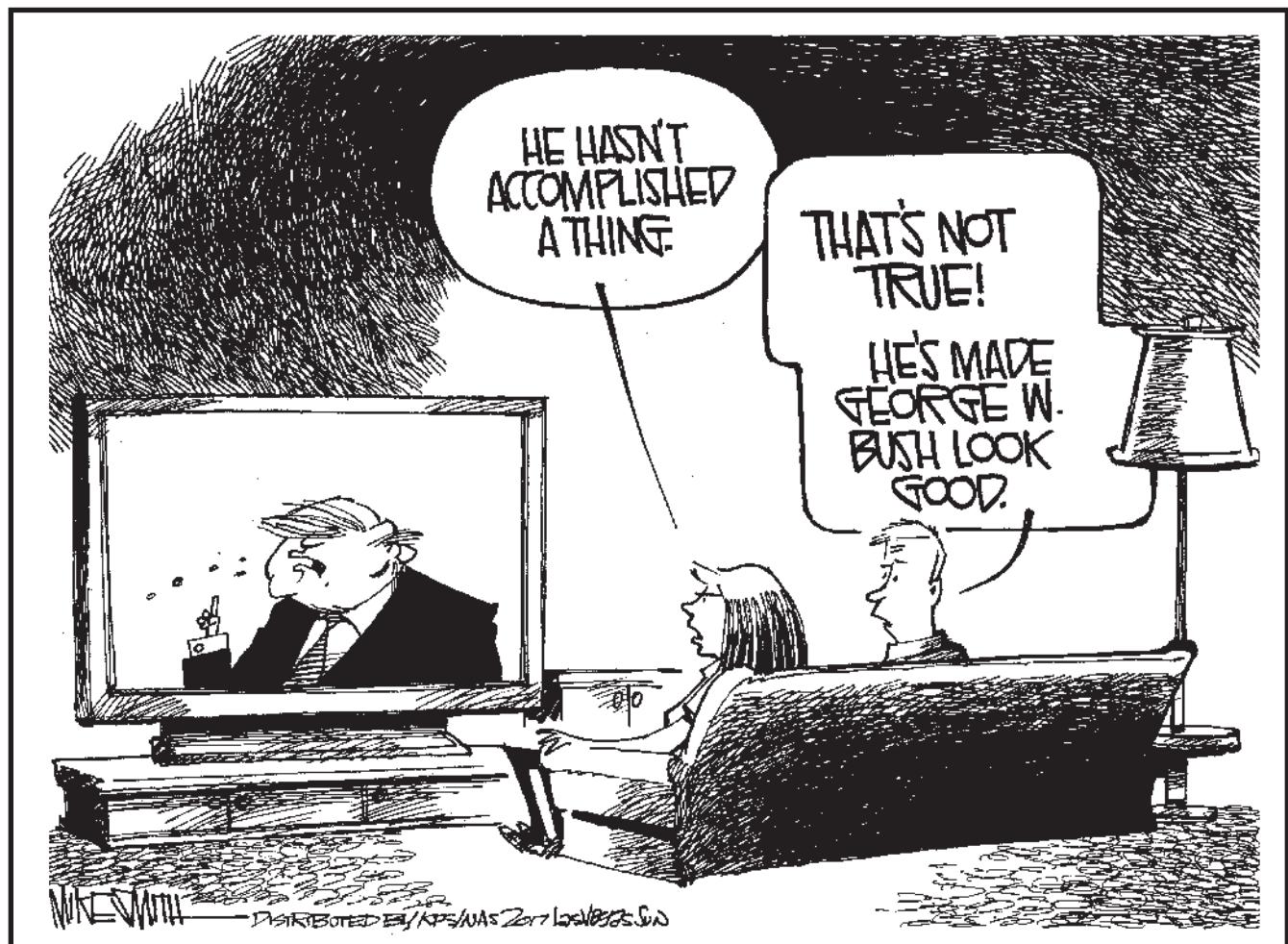
Instead of talking, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont have been exchanging threats in a perilous game of brinkmanship. What's at stake? The heart of the Catalan region is Barcelona, the vibrant Mediterranean tourist oasis that's vital to Spain's economic health and national brand. The region also is home to several of Spain's pharmaceutical, chemical and metalworking industries. Take away Catalonia, and Spain loses 20 percent of its economy.

The Catalans must understand that secession will lead to chaos and, potentially, violence. Rajoy has Spain's constitution on his side, and if the Catalans don't back down, he'll have to enforce the law. However, there remains room for talk. Madrid can still offer Catalans greater autonomy. It's a compromise that avoids conflict, and one that Catalans would be wise to accept.

©2017 Chicago Tribune



A mannequin stands next to a "estelada" or Catalonia independence flag, on a balcony, in Barcelona, Spain, Monday, Oct. 23, 2017.



In defense of English Lit

There's a tendency among English professors to pitch and plead for our subject as, counterintuitively, a practical choice for the student of today facing the job market of tomorrow.

We aren't wrong about that. Study after study backs us up, while at regular intervals yet another corporate CEO or Silicon Valley guru trumpets the value of a degree in English or Philosophy or Classics. English majors are making a perfectly pragmatic decision, one that will help them cultivate the "soft skills" employers want—critical thinking, communication, creative problem solving, collaboration—while also nurturing the intellectual curiosity and mental agility that will serve them well when the careers of the future turn out to be ones we couldn't predict. Liberal arts graduates are not doomed to serve Frappuccinos to MBAs: They are teachers and journalists, writers and doctors, artists and executives. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was an English major; so were Sting, Sally Ride, Clarence Thomas and Emma Watson. There is no straight line from a BA in English to one specific job—but that's an advantage, not a drawback.

Yet the myth persists that an English degree is at best decorative and at worst debilitating, and the number of English majors is declining. Why should this be? How can it be, when the facts are on our side? It's both disheartening and baffling.

Lately, I've been thinking that it's partly our fault—that our self-promoting argument, though a sound one, is the wrong one, and also a self-defeating one. Because here's the truth: If your priority is to improve your marketable skills, you certainly can do that—indeed, you will do that—in my class on the Victorian novel, but you do not actually need my class on the Victorian novel, or any other literature class, for that purpose.

Studying "Middlemarch" is simply not a necessary condition for learning critical thinking or communication skills. Many other classes will help with that, and they might do it more efficiently. Reading "Middlemarch" is taking the long way around to those generic ends.

The only thing you'll get in a class on the Victorian novel that you won't get anywhere else is an education in the Victorian novel. If we want students to choose an English degree over other programs equally able to improve their soft skills, we need to make our best case for that specific experience—not just for the value of studying "Bleak House," "Jane Eyre" or "Middlemarch," of course, but for the importance of engaging with our vast, diverse, vexing and exhilarating literary culture, from "Beowulf" to the Beat poets, from Tennyson to Toni Morrison. The utilitarian defense we've been relying on tacitly concedes the fundamental irrelevance of our actual subject. No wonder we're demoralized. No wonder it sometimes seems as if our own students—or, more to the point, our prospective students—don't know what we have to offer.

So what is the best case for studying English? I could start

By ROHAN MAITZEN

Los Angeles Times

Rohan Maitzen is an associate professor of English at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



with the research psychologists are doing on the crucial role that reading fiction plays in developing empathy, or with the eloquent case philosopher Martha Nussbaum has made for the ethical advantages of seeing the world as a novelist does—one like Henry James "on whom nothing is lost," or one like Charles Dickens, who in "Hard Times," delivers a stinging rebuke to just the kind of reductive economic utilitarianism currently dominating conversations about higher education. Or I could point to programs such as Changing Lives Through Literature, which show the transformative potential, both personal and social, of the imaginative exercise literature demands.

But these arguments still skip over what made most of us readers first and English majors second: the thrill of discovering what words can do, and of thinking hard about what they mean. Literature is not just a means to other ends. Like all art, it deserves attention for its own sake—and also for ours. Literature is the record of the many stories we have told about ourselves and our world, and of the many ways we have found to use language artfully and beautifully, but also cruelly and obtusely. It both reflects us and shapes us. We don't need any excuses for taking it seriously.

Standing up for what we actually teach might turn out to work better than we imagine. Even those who claim to see no use for literature often tacitly acknowledge its importance, especially at times of high emotion or deep significance—weddings, for instance, or funerals. How often do people turn to poetry because they recognize, on some level, that it offers them something they can't find anywhere else?

But even if this isn't a winning strategy, at least we would be advocating for our classes in a principled way, rather than trying to convince people that they should study George Eliot to practice their teamwork.

Don't major in English if your goal is to acquire marketable skills. Or at any rate, don't take my class on the Victorian novel for that reason. Take it because you've heard that "Middlemarch" may be the greatest 19th-century English novel and you want to experience it for yourself. You'll probably end up a better thinker because of it, but "Middlemarch" itself is reason enough to be there. It will be my job and my pleasure to help you understand why.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tiempun siso` amaka

Ma-anunsia adelantun ekonomia lau gi mismu tiempu kahulu` lokue` apas hospitat 50 pot sientu. Lastima i anunsiu gineng as Biktot Hokog ni kumombida hit guatu gi kantun kolat! Tinatiye ni anunsium nubeu na apas hospitat ni dumulalag hit gineng i pastah!

Dispues, mauleg na annunsiu yangin magahet na mattu papa` i adelantu gi pottanmonedan 14,000 na empleau ni esta pa`gu "poverty income" sueddun niha. Yangin guaha maseha dididi` na ayudu mauleg. Lau `nai appenas pues maulegna hu huchum sikosña si Biktot Hokog!

Kuantu gi un` chule` guan i taxpayers (\$400,000) para bisnis familiamu esta manana`lu? Na la agañg fan ineppepu, pindehu! Ti namanman i tailaye na disision miyu sumapet mas i publicu.

Biblia: Inetnon mañgilisyanu ma-establese gi enteru iya America para umafama tinagu` i Saina gi Santa Biblia. Todu atte machogue tat kumu television para umana famta` programan finana guen i uniku Satbadot i tautau.

Inibliga este nu i te`ug na diniskontentu gi entalu` man-ma`gas siha. Guaha `nai hihot gera gi bandan rasan tautau. Presisu na uma-ataha minaipen binibu gi hilu` homlu` na fina` konbetsasion. Gaige finana`guen pinasensia yan hinimiddi gi biblia.

I Santa Biblia i mas mauleg na lepblu ni matuge` dispues de finattun i Sainata. Guaha siha gi tinago`ña mapula` gi fina` ti mapot na estoria para ta komprende ni man-otdinariu. Kase esta sinko biahe hu taitai i Santa Biblia. Mauleg siha na leksion para todumafilisyanu!

Tinagu` i Saina i inasi`i, yine`ase`, hinimidi, gineftau gi namsa` yan ayudu. Todu pot todumafilisyanu!

Obligasion: Saludu para todumafilisyanu yan maestra ni fumanana`gue famaguon natibu ni hila` nanan niha. I fitme na sisteman PSS ha inklusu parehu konbetsasion yan matuge` na finu` natu-

bu. Poresu na sumen fitme yan ma`ug pinegan miyu gi famaguonta.

Este na pinetsige umasegura na ma`ug pisun kuttura guine gi inai petlas iya Marianas. I liñguahue solu sahyan natibu gi kuttura yan tradisiona. Mauleg hamyu mismu ni mañaina in` prekura kumuentuse famaguon miyu ni finu` tanu` gineng halum guma`. I eskuela u konfitma yan fitme haf` finana`guen i dos saina. Na`e animu sa` sumen agradesiyun todumafilisyanu!

Bisinu: Gi hiyuñg bintana-hu, hu li`e i bisinu siha tat kumu Japon, China, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia yan Thailand. Sige mamueba salape` niha man-mamahan kabu` gi todumafilisyanu produktun gi metkau globus. Machoguen usun komputa!

Hu ekuñgog ñaihon kau masusesede lokue` parehu burukua guine. Ni uno kalalamten. Era mantai kabu` hit mina` mampos silensi komputan iya Marianas. Na` triste lau estague` na estau `nai mangaige hit gi bandan ekonomian mañan chanseru.

Uchan: `Nai poduñg i ichan, kinilili` halum ni freskun mañglo` . Hana` fan magof siñienteta sa` intaha i maipe. Kontodu hagun troñku siha sige manpalapa gi aire. Mauleg finattun fañuchanan dispues de fañumagan. Tiempun agua!

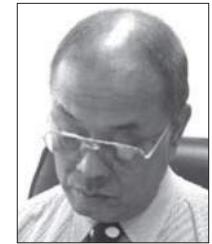
Kulot troñku yan cha`guan muna`lu tattu, betde. Bula sakate para i guaka, chiba yan babue. I manog lokue` u fañochu fresku na sinisun hagun cha`guan. Puede ti mattu gi mansabiu i namañhau na kulot betde!

Inañgoghu: Gi todumafilisyanu piot gi halum kañadan chinat-saga solu esperensag-hu i inañgog-hu gi Saina gi hilu` humidi na finaisen bendision. Adumididi` huna metgot i suspichosu na inañgog-hu giya estake felis pinakat-hu gi halum dinida pot tautau-yu` . Ha bendise un` makat na finaisen-hu. Ayu na bendision tutuhun fitme na pisun inañgog-hu giya giya kumu taihineko nina` siñaña yan yine`ase`ña. Ayu tutuhon-hu gi inañgog-hu gineng sinantusan yan tai atparehu na dos patman kanaiña.

Chinatsaga: Dañkulu na sapet gi familia i monhayan esta ma-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

gasta pagimientun Bietnes dos semana antes de dichu ha`aniña. Un` didog na pinadese i kumahulu` presiun nesessidat pot mas ke 20 años na tiempu lau i sueddun gatdun kulan tinake` lulog. Estague` mas umatisa pinadesen megai na familia guine.

Namanman i mansabiun hegsu` I Deni` ni rumepresesenta i publicu. Appenas pinetsige para uma-adelanta este na patte gi ha anen taauta siha. Kulan mohon ti manginen i mismu soñgoñ. Anog na siha mismu pumuta` entalu` "manguaha" yan "mamopble" hombre unratuha` mana`en maisa siha 80 pot sientu na subidan sueddun.

Hinimiddi: Gi taftaf na patte gi ochenta siha na sakan, hu akompañia i gobietnu yan kabisiyun lehislatura gi majustifikasi finaisen \$60-mas miyon para hospitta, era in CHC.

Hu hatsa kueyuhu kulan mohon mifuetas-ju` na pidasitun unai petlas guine. Dispues hu repara na finattun misirekoddia biahen mame. Mantai fondu hit para ta hatsa hospitat mismu. Taya` fondu para ma-areglan chalan, kandet yan hanum. Malañhyu yan poduñg kueyuhu.

Unu klaru gi fatachoñghu gi park gi kantun Potomac River: Iya Washington i mas fuetsudu na siyan gobietnu gi enteru i elmundu! Este `nai hu kahlañgyu` gi birada yan mahlug papa yan mayamag piku.

By CLARENCE PAGE

Chicago Tribune



Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@chicagotribune.com.

sibilities were because we were at war."

I know what Kelly means. I used to wonder where that courage comes from. Then I was drafted in 1969 and I found out. Although I never faced combat, I served with many who did. The courage, I soon realized, grows out of devotion not just to one's country but also to the men and women with whom you are fighting. You rely on them to watch your back and they rely on you. Greater love has no man or woman.

In that sense, we knew what we signed up for. It is unfortunate that President Trump might not have expressed himself as sensitively as he should. But he also didn't help matters by fiercely denying that he said any of what Wilson said he had said—shortly after Kelly had confirmed the president probably did say it.

He made bad matters even worse by falsely claiming that previous presidents had not called the families of deceased service personnel at all. We have become unfortunately accustomed to Trump the counter-puncher, making up facts on the fly (What was that inauguration crowd size again?). But his verbal flailing sounded particularly callous after the death of Sgt. Johnson and his fellow American fighters.

And it might make Kelly feel better to know that Rep. Wilson was more than an opportunistic politician to the Johnsons. She's been a family friend for decades, according to the Washington Post. The deceased soldier was an alumnus along with his two brothers of the 5,000 Role Models of Excellence Project, a mentoring program Wilson started for youths pursuing various careers, including the military.

Like his fellow fallen heroes, Johnson's story offers a model of courage and sacrifice that should bring Americans together with feelings of pride to be his fellow Americans. The lesson for President Trump in facing the families of veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice: If nothing else, remember to say simply, "I'm sorry for your loss." Those few words say it all.

Three messages for a man who wasn't there

It was a day for three extraordinary speeches by three extraordinary men, each with an important message for another man who was not in the room.

Two former presidents, George W. Bush and Barack Obama, delivered speeches at separate events on Thursday that seemed pointedly to be aimed at current President Donald Trump—while avoiding any mention of his name.

That omission was prudent. As we have learned repeatedly, our tough-talking president can be as sensitive as a snowflake to even the mildest criticism of his self-described "winning" and "terrific" self.



Former President Barack Obama, speaks as fellow former Presidents, from left, Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, and Bill Clinton look on during a hurricanes relief concert in College Station, Texas, Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017.

Yet it was in defense of his boss that White House chief of staff John Kelly delivered the most poignantly memorable speech of the day. In an 18-minute appearance in the White House briefing room, Kelly defended President Trump's phone call earlier in the week to the widow of a slain Army sergeant, a call that, like much of Trump's presidency, had turned into a surprisingly ugly controversy.

Kelly criticized Rep. Frederica S. Wilson, a Florida Democrat for making a public issue out of the president's private phone call to Myeshia Johnson, whose husband, Sgt. La David T. Johnson, was one of four American soldiers killed in an Oct. 4 ambush in Niger.

Kelly, a retired Marine general, has made those painful calls himself. He also received them, although not from President Obama, he recalled, after his own son Second Lt. Robert Kelly was killed in Afghanistan in 2010.

Before this tragic episode, he had guarded his personal story in public. But he was so upset by Rep. Wilson's appearance on TV news shows, he told reporters, that he had to collect his thoughts in a visit to the graves at Arlington National Cemetery.

He described Wilson, who was in a car with Mrs. Johnson when Trump called, a publicity-seeking opportunist. He also cited her willingness to breach the "sacred" confidentiality of the

president's phone call as evidence of a broader decline in the values of a society that no longer treats women, religion, "life" or Gold Star families as sacred.

Trump fell into hot water after Wilson quoted him as saying "basically" that, "Well, I guess he knew what he signed up for. But I guess it still hurt."

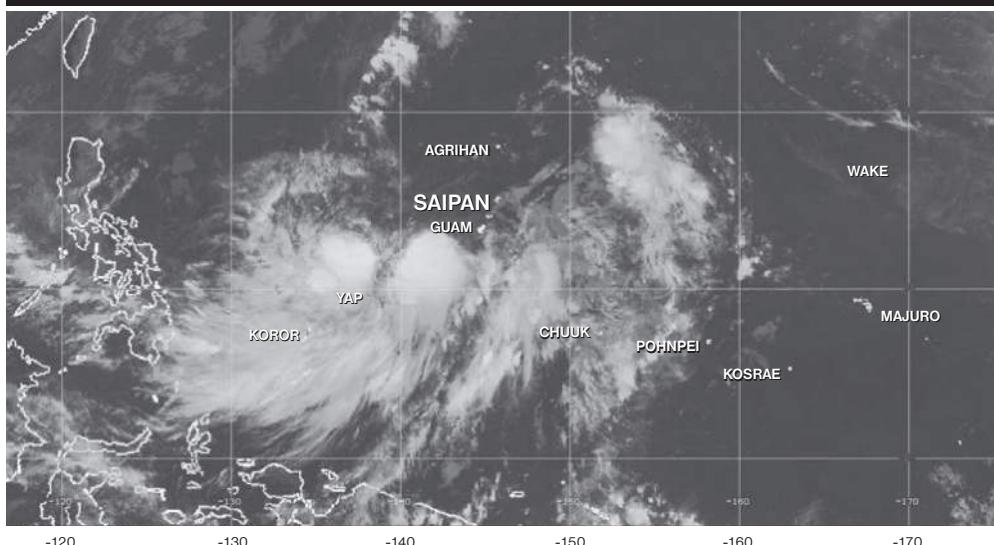
Kelly put that into a different context. He recalled telling Trump about the military officer who informed him of his son's death and described how he "was doing exactly what he wanted to do when he was killed. He knew what he was getting into by joining that 1 percent. He knew what the pos-

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 85° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 11:38 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Still some uncertainty on what Tropical Storm 27W will do. It is moving west-northwest and is expected to pass southwest of Guam sometime today. While convection is close to the center of the storm, it is still somewhat disorganized. Winds will increase during the day as 27W moves closer to the local area. Water Vapor imagery shows an upper-level low moving in from the northeast. This low is associated with dry air which will put a damper on rainfall during the day. Models actually show this dry area so only have isolated showers and thunderstorms today. Models also agree on bringing in moisture by sunset tonight so expect occasional showers and isolated thunderstorms. Things should taper off by Wednesday morning with mainly isolated showers and thunderstorms.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85°	/	78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85°	/	79°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85°	/	76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85°	/	76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84°	/	79°

AROUND THE GLOBE

		▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Showers	64°	/	57°
Beijing	Cloudy	63°	/	46°
Hong Kong	Sunny	82°	/	73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83°	/	71°
London	Cloudy	64°	/	54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	97°	/	66°
Manila	Showers	88°	/	77°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	64°	/	48°
Miami	Showers	75°	/	63°
New York	Showers	69°	/	52°
Osaka	Sunny	72°	/	55°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	72°	/	48°
Busan	Sunny	70°	/	54°
Rome	Sunny	73°	/	48°
Salem	Sunny	63°	/	42°
San Francisco	Sunny	73°	/	54°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	64°	/	46°
Tokyo	Sunny	66°	/	52°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	64°	/	47°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
4:53 AM	LOW TIDE	0.04
11:53 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.71
5:42 PM	LOW TIDE	1.16
10:07 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.57

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:25 am	10:02 pm	-
Thursday	11:13 am	10:50 pm	-
Friday	12:00 pm	11:40 pm	-
Saturday	12:46 pm	-	-
Sunday	-	12:30 am	1:30 pm

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 4, 2017

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394 4:15am 5:05am Daily				UA6393 2:45am 3:35am Daily			
UA6392 8:40am 9:30am Daily				UA6395 7:15am 8:05am Daily			
UA6391 1:30pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota				UA6391 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7			
UA6390 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6				UA6390 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota			
UA6398 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily				UA6397 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily			
UA6396 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily				UA6399 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily			
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391 1:30pm 2:05pm 1, 4, 5, 7				UA6390 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7				UA6390 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6			
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297 4:15pm 7:05pm Daily				DL298 10:20am 3:00pm Daily			
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 7				7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4			
7C3451 4:00am 7:05am 4, 5				7C3452 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7			
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308 1:35am 5:20am 2, 3, 4				7C3402 9:30am 3:00pm Daily			
OZ626 2:20am 6:00am 1				TW307 7:05pm 12:35am+1 1, 2, 3			
TW308 2:35am 6:20am 6, 7				OZ625 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7			

3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival



Visiting performers dance together during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



The Rafaluwasch Warriors perform their traditional warrior dance with visiting performers at the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Traditional ukuleles are on display during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



In the spirit of sharing and practicing ukulele music, a young woman plays her ukulele during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



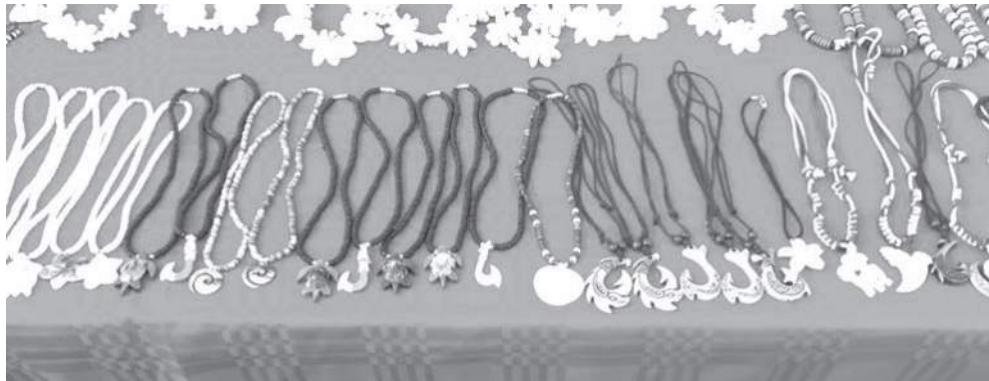
Visiting Japanese performers perform live ukulele music during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base. The festival featured several established ukulele performers from Asia, including JazzoomCafe, Mariko Uchiumi, Yusuke Saito, and Nanaco from Japan; Blues Lee, Vivian Kim and Ukulele Ensemble from Korea; and Vanessa Ding from Taiwan.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Traditional crafts and traditional jewelry were sold during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Handcrafted Jewelry by Tahines Creations are displayed during the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Families gather to witness the performances and ukulele music that was showcased at the 3rd Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Business

What to know about 401(k) plans amid talk of tax change

NEW YORK (AP)—The 401(k) may be in Washington's crosshairs.

Congress is looking for ways to raise revenue as part of a tax overhaul plan, and one of the methods reportedly under consideration is to curtail how much pretax money workers can contribute to their 401(k) and similar accounts. Such a move would strike at a way that tens of millions of Americans use to save for retirement.

The suggestion has already run into some resistance, even if it isn't an official policy proposal. President Donald Trump said Monday in a tweet that "There will be NO change to your 401(k). This has always been a great and popular middle class tax break that works, and it stays!"

Here's a look at how prevalent the 401(k) has become and how it's used:

HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN A 401(K)?

About 55 million Americans, who altogether have more than \$5 trillion invested in the plans, according to the Investment Company Institute, a trade group representing mutual funds.

Roughly \$19 of every \$100 in U.S. retirement assets is in a 401(k) account. A decade ago, \$17 of every \$100 was in a



Specialist Anthony Matesic, left, and trader Frederick Reimer work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017. AP

401(k). The rest is in pension funds, Individual Retirement Accounts, annuities and other investments.

WHY ARE 401(K)s SO IMPORTANT?

U.S. households are increasingly in charge of saving for their own retirements.

Traditional pensions, which pay out a set amount to retirees, are growing closer to extinction. Plus, the retirement of the baby boomers is straining the Social Security trust fund, which is expected to run dry in 2034.

Enter the 401(k) account,

which Congress created in 1978. It allows workers to set aside some of their pay and avoid paying even a cent of taxes on it until making withdrawals in retirement. By that time, savers may be making less in income than in their working years, which would mean they pay lower income-tax rates.

One of the big benefits of a 401(k) is that it can make saving automatic. Deductions get taken out of each paycheck. A growing number of employers are also automatically enrolling their workers into a 401(k)

program and even automatically increasing their contribution rate each year, in hopes of setting workers up for better retirements.

HOW ARE 401(K) ACCOUNTS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER RETIREMENT PLANS?

They allow workers to save more each year for retirement, on a tax-deferred basis. This year, for example, workers can set aside up to \$18,000 in contributions. Workers aged 50 and over can contribute up to \$24,000.

GAO: Climate change already costing US billions in losses

WASHINGTON (AP)—A non-partisan federal watchdog says climate change is already costing U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars each year, with those costs expected to rise as devastating storms, floods, wildfires and droughts become more frequent in the coming decades.

A Government Accountability Office report released Monday said the federal government has spent more than \$350 billion over the last decade on disaster assistance programs and losses from flood and crop insurance. That tally does not include the massive toll from this year's three major hurricanes and wildfires, expected to be among the most costly in the nation's history.

The report predicts these costs will only grow in the future, potentially reaching a budget busting \$35 billion a year by 2050. The report says the federal government doesn't effectively plan for these recurring costs, classifying the financial exposure from climate-related costs as "high risk."

"The federal government has not undertaken strategic government-wide planning to manage climate risks by using information on the potential economic effects of climate change to identify significant risks and craft appropriate federal responses," the study said. "By using such information, the federal government could take the initial step in establishing government-wide pri-

orities to manage such risks."

GAO undertook the study following a request from Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine and Sen. Maria Cantwell of Washington, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

"This nonpartisan GAO report Senator Cantwell and I requested contains astonishing numbers about the consequences of climate change for our economy and for the federal budget in particular," said Collins. "In Maine, our economy is inextricably linked to the environment. We are experiencing a real change in the sea life, which has serious implications for the livelihoods of many people across our state, including those who

work in our iconic lobster industry."

The report's authors reviewed 30 government and academic studies examining the national and regional impacts of climate change. They also interviewed 28 experts familiar with the strengths and limitations of the studies, which rely on future projections of climate impacts to estimate likely costs.

The report says the fiscal impacts of climate change are likely to vary widely by region. The Southeast is at increased risk because of coastal property that could be swamped by storm surge and sea level rise. The Northeast is also under threat from storm surge and sea level rise, though not as much as the Southeast.

By comparison, the annual limit for tax-deferred contributions in an IRA is \$5,500, or \$6,500 for people aged 50 and above.

HOW BIG IS THE TYPICAL 401(K)?

The average balance for a 401(K) was \$97,700 at the end of June, according to Fidelity, which looked at 15 million participants in 22,200 plans. That's a record, and the totals have been rising as the stock market continues to climb and workers set aside more of their pay.

Workers contributed an average of \$5,850 to their 401(k) in the 12 months through June, up 4 percent from a year earlier. Proposals have reportedly discussed capping the annual pretax amount as low as \$2,400.

The average IRA balance

is slightly larger, at \$100,200, according to Fidelity.

ARE THERE ANY DOWNSIDES TO A 401(K)?

The menu of available investments isn't always the best. Workers have filed numerous lawsuits in recent years against their employers, alleging that the 401(k) plan offers only funds that charge too-high fees or that have poor track records.

Even if good options are available, many workers feel uncomfortable making investment choices. That's one reason employers have been steering many workers into target-date retirement funds. These all-in-one mutual funds shift from risky investments toward safer ones as the targeted year of retirement approaches.

New flight paths lead to airplane noise complaints across US

PHOENIX (AP)—Airliners began flying over Twila Lake's bungalow-style house in a historic district three years ago, taking off every one to two minutes from the Phoenix airport and roaring over her neighborhood. It was a sudden change after rarely hearing jets in her previous 13 years in the downtown neighborhood.

Now, "it's all day and night long," complained the 71-year-old retiree, who said she sleeps with the television on to drown out aircraft noise. Some neighbors sold their homes and moved after the aviation highway entrance ramp was routed overhead.

The Federal Aviation Administration started revising flight paths and procedures around the United States in 2014 under its air traffic control modernization plan known as "NextGen."

The new procedures use more precise, satellite-based navigation that saves time, increases the number of planes airports can service, and reduces fuel burn and emissions.

Noise complaints exploded from San Diego to Charlotte, North Carolina, to New York as flights were concentrated at lower altitudes, in narrower

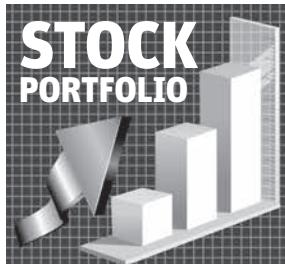
paths and on more frequent schedules. The new paths often reduce the number of people exposed to noise, but those who get noise get it far more consistently.

In Phoenix, redrawn flights over vintage neighborhoods like Lake's affect some 2,500 homes, prompting a court challenge from historic districts and the city.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on Aug. 29 agreed with their assessment that the FAA was "arbitrary and capricious" in revising flight procedures. FAA officials asked for an extension, and the court this month pushed the petition deadline to Nov. 16.

Local governments and residents in more than a half-dozen other areas—including Washington's Georgetown neighborhood and California's Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Orange County and Culver City—have similar petitions before the court.

Attorney Steven Taber, who represents several Southern California communities with complaints, predicted legal action over flight changes will be a continuing problem across the U.S.



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
23,273.96
-54.67
-0.23%

S&P
2,564.98
-10.23
-0.40%

NASDAQ
6,586.83
-42.23
-0.64%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.2812
British Pound	0.7571
Canadian Dollar	1.2642
Chinese Yuan	6.5058
Euro	1.0000

In U.S. dollar terms

Hong Kong Dollar	7.8039
Indian Rupee	64.2570
Japanese Yen	113.5270
Malaysian Ringgit	4.1865
New Zealand Dollar	1.4419
Philippine Peso	50.4634
Russian Ruble	57.4611
Singapore Dollar	1.3593
South Korean Won	1101.49
Swiss Franc	0.9850
Taiwan Dollar	29.6258
Thailand Baht	33.0975

Nation

Angry soldier's widow says Trump didn't know husband's name

WASHINGTON (AP)—A fallen soldier's angry widow joined the stormy dispute with President Donald Trump on Monday over his response to her husband's death, declaring that his failure to remember the soldier's name in last week's condolence call "made me cry." He retorted that the call was "very respectful" and her accusation about her husband's name simply wasn't true.

Though Trump refused to let the new round of complaints go unanswered, he steered clear of the insults he exchanged last week with a congresswoman who had overhead the sympathy call.

The president spoke in public at two events during the day—including his awarding of the military Medal of Honor to a Vietnam-era Army medic—and made no mention of the case of Sgt. La David Johnson, one of four soldiers killed Oct. 4 in a firefight with militants tied to the Islamic State group in Niger.

In addition to criticizing Trump, Myeshia Johnson, the sergeant's widow, also complained bitterly that she had not been able to see her husband's body.

"I need to see him so I will know that that is my husband," she said. "I don't know nothing, they won't show me a finger, a hand."

A Pentagon spokeswoman said the military often may make a recommendation on viewing but that soldiers' bodies are prepared and turned over to

the family and its funeral director. The final decision on viewing is up to them, said spokeswoman Laura Ochoa.

Myeshia Johnson spoke for the first time in the dispute on ABC's "Good Morning America." In the interview, she supported critical statements last week by Rep. Frederica Wilson, who had been in the car with the widow and other relatives when Trump phoned.

"Yes, the president said that 'he knew what he signed up for, but it hurts anyway.' And it made me cry 'cause I was very angry at the tone of his voice and how he said he couldn't remember my husband's name," Johnson said.

The president answered on Twitter soon after the interview aired, saying: "I had a very respectful conversation with the widow of Sgt. La David Johnson, and spoke his name from beginning, without hesitation!"

At the Pentagon, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford,

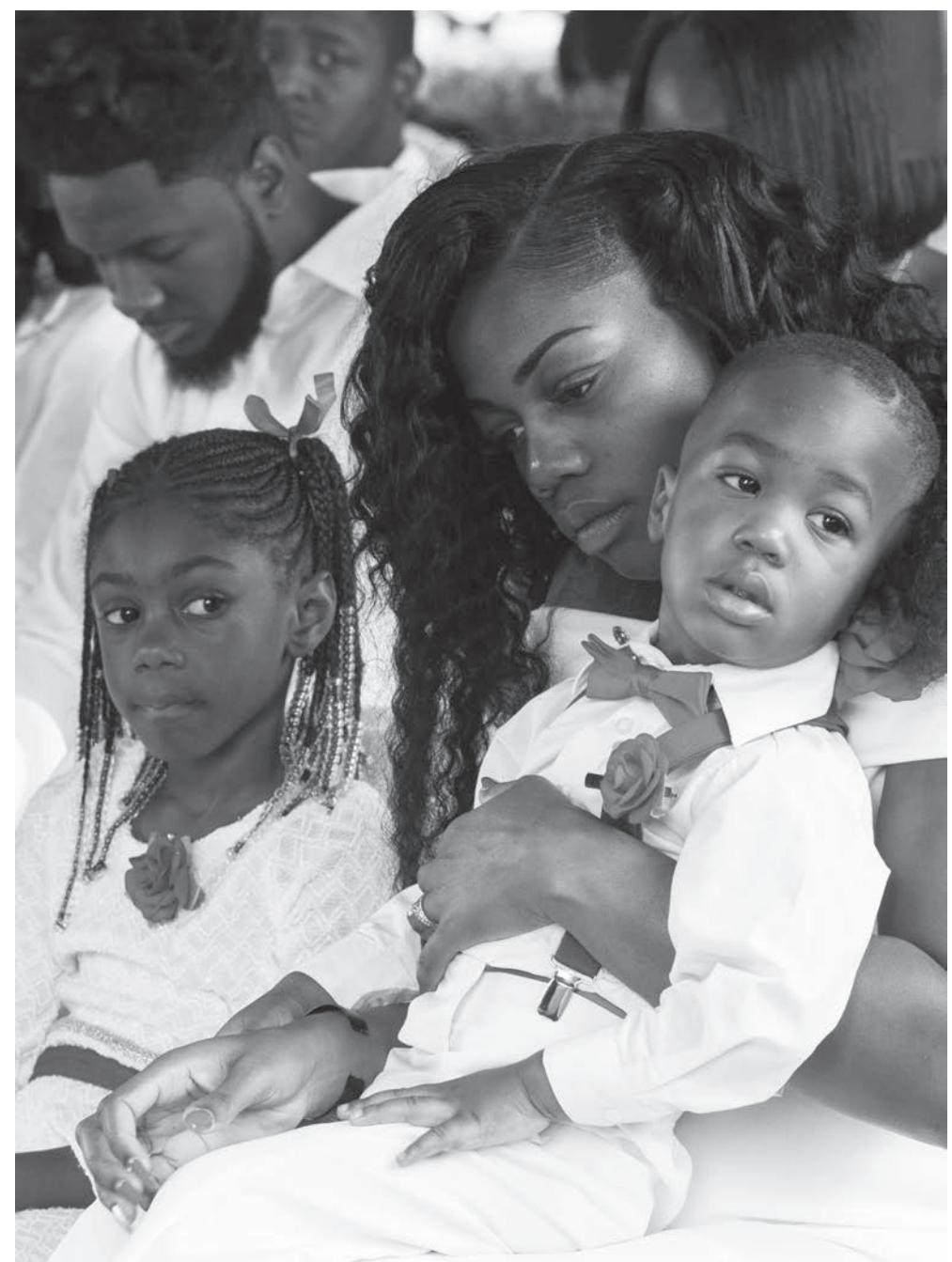
chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said an investigation has still to resolve questions about the Oct. 4 firefight. They include whether the U.S. had adequate intelligence and equipment for its operation, whether there was a planning failure and why it took two days to recover Johnson's body.

Said Johnson on Monday: "I heard him stumbling on trying to remember my husband's name, and that's what hurt me the most, because if my husband is out here fighting for our country and he risked his life for our country why can't you remember his name."

The continuing dispute drew criticism from McCain, who spent more than five years in a Vietnamese prison. He said on "The View" Monday: "We should not be fighting about a brave American who lost his life."

Confusion over what happened in Niger has dogged Trump, who was silent about the deaths for more than a week.

Asked last Monday about that silence, Trump credited himself with doing more to honor the military dead and console their families than any of his predecessors. His subsequent boast that he reaches out personally to all families of the fallen was contradicted by interviews with family members, some of whom had not heard from him.



Widow Myeshia Johnson, Ah'leeysa, 6, and La David Jr., 2, attend the burial service of Sgt. La David Johnson at Fred Hunter's Hollywood Memorial Gardens in Hollywood, Fla., on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017. AP

Judge: Trump's health care cuts don't pose immediate threat

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal judge on Monday hammered an attorney for California over the state's push for a court order immediately reinstating "Obamacare" subsidies cut off by the Trump administration, saying California and other states had protected consumers from the loss of the funding.

U.S. District Judge Vince Chhabria did not issue a ruling but appeared highly skeptical of the request by California, 17 other states and the District of Columbia to force the government to make the payments as their lawsuit over the subsidies works its way through the courts, which will take months.

State attorneys general, led by California Democrat Xavier Becerra, argue the monthly payments to insurance providers are required under former President Barack Obama's health care law. Without them, consumers will face higher costs and insurers will back out of the law's health insurance markets, causing them to fall apart, the states say.

The cost-sharing payments reimburse insurers for providing lower-income people with discounts on out-of-pocket costs. President Donald Trump halted the subsidies earlier this month, criticizing them as insurance company bailouts.

California and other states had anticipated the subsidies would end and found a way to ensure consumers would not pay more for insurance, Chhabria, an Obama appointee, said during a hearing. The states limited the plans for which insurers could hike premiums to make up for the lost subsidies and ensured that many people will get more tax credits for their health insurance purchases, the judge said.

Chhabria peppered an attorney for California with questions about why he should force the administration to resume payments when the states had devised a work-around that would benefit many consumers.

"The state of California is standing on the courthouse

steps denouncing the president for taking away people's health care, when the truth is that California has come up with a solution to that issue that is going to result in better health care for a lot of people," Chhabria said.

Gregory Brown, who represented California at the hearing, said the loss of the subsidies was creating "uncertainty and chaos" that could lead insurance companies to opt out of the health law.

Brown also said the Trump administration's decision would "spook consumers."

The judge said it was important to have stability and certainty in health insurance markets, but the states were talking about problems that could occur years from now, by which time he could have ruled on the case.

The White House has said the government cannot legally pay the subsidies because there is no formal authorization from Congress.

However, the administration had been making the

monthly payments even as Trump threatened to cut them off to force Democrats to negotiate over health care. A bipartisan effort in Congress to restore the payments has run into opposition.

The states argue that the Trump administration violated a law requiring government agencies to obey existing statutes and follow orderly and transparent procedures.

Democratic attorneys general have pushed back against Trump's agenda in the federal courts, looking to block the president's attempts to roll back Obama's policies on the environment, health care and immigration.

The states joining California in the lawsuit are: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and Washington, along with the District of Columbia.

Trump shoots down retirement limit to pay for GOP tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump shot down a possible approach for raising revenue to finance tax cuts in politically must-do legislation for the Republicans, promising Monday the popular 401(k) retirement savings program will be untouched.

Still, the head of the House's

tax-writing committee indicated that changes to the 401(k) structure may still be on the table as Republicans push an ambitious timetable to get tax legislation written. Asked about the issue, Ways and Means Committee Chair Rep. Kevin Brady said: "I don't want to get ahead of the committee. That will all be part of the tax reform bill."

And in response to whether Trump's tweet changes in any way what the panel was planning to do, Brady replied only, "no."

Republicans are scrambling to find new revenue sources to pay for anticipated tax cuts exceeding \$1 trillion. A proposal

to eliminate the widely-used federal deduction for state and local taxes has run into heavy opposition from GOP House members from high-tax states, threatening the enactment of tax legislation that Republicans deem essential to retaining their majority in next year's elections.

Trump pledged in a tweet there will be "no change" to tax incentives for the 401(k) retirement programs.

The No. 2 Republican in the Senate, Majority Whip John Cornyn of Texas, said he's "sympathetic" to Trump's opposition to curbing 401(k)s because "we don't want to discourage people from saving."

But he cautioned against ruling out ideas at this stage of the legislative process. "I do think we need to be careful because there are going to be a lot of different trial balloons, and what counts is how you put all this together," Cornyn said.

Asia

HK activist Joshua Wong freed on bail pending appeal

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong's highest court freed pro-democracy activists Joshua Wong and Nathan Law on bail Tuesday pending an appeal of their prison sentences after they were convicted of sparking massive protests in 2014.

The pair were imprisoned after the justice secretary succeeded in getting an earlier, more lenient sentence overturned, raising concerns about political interference in the courts and waning tolerance for dissent in the Chinese-controlled city.

The decision to release Wong, the city's most famous activist, and Law, a disqualified lawmaker, coincidentally came the same day China's Communist Party was ending a twice-a-decade party congress in Beijing that expanded President Xi Jinping's power. There appeared to be no link, though the two events highlighted the widening rift between mainland China and semiautonomous Hong Kong.

The Court of Final Appeal granted bail to Wong and Law until Nov. 7, when their appeals will be heard, according to social media posts by their political party, Demosisto, and local media reports.

Broadcaster RTHK reported



Supporters hold a yellow umbrella as pro-democracy activist Nathan Law, front center, walks out from the Court of Final Appeal in Hong Kong, Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017. AP

ed that Judge Geoffrey Ma required each to post 50,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$6,400)

for bail, surrender their travel documents and report to police once a week.

Dozens of supporters and a large press pack waited outside the courthouse for the pair to appear.

Wong and Law were originally given community service sentences that let them avoid prison after conviction.

Wong had also expressed a desire to run for office but the prison sentence prevents him from doing so for five years.

A third student leader, Alex Chow, who was also convicted and imprisoned in the same case did not request bail.

China's Communist Party inserts Xi into party constitution

BEIJING (AP)—China's ruling Communist Party moved Tuesday to confirm Xi Jinping's rise to becoming the country's most powerful leader in decades by amending its constitution to add his name and ideology.

Xi's concept of "socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era" was added to the party constitution at the close of a twice-a-decade major congress.

"The Chinese people and nation have a great and bright future ahead," Xi told party delegates as the meeting came to a close.

"At this great time, we feel more self-confident and proud. At the same time, we also deeply feel a heavy sense of responsibility," he said.

The concept Xi has touted is seen as marking a break from the stage of economic reform ushered in by Deng Xiaoping in the late 1970s and continued under his successors Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao.

In a sign of Xi's greater clout, his name was attached to his theory, putting him on par with Deng and communist China's founder, Mao Zedong.

"In every sense, the Xi Jinping era has begun in earnest,"

said Zhang Lisan, an independent political commentator in Beijing. "Only Mao's name was enshrined in the party ideology while he was still alive. We're opening something that hasn't been broached before."

For centuries, Chinese emperors were accorded ritual names that signaled either they were successors in a dynastic line or the founder of an entirely new dynasty. What Xi accomplished this week was a modern equivalent of the latter, Zhang said.

The move came at the close of the 89 million-member party's twice-a-decade national congress at Beijing's hulking Great Hall of the People, where nearly 2,300 delegates gathered to elect the party's leading bodies and hear reports.

Although the delegates nominally have the power to vote on candidates, all choices are carefully vetted and the outcomes decided by negotiations among the top leaders.

The constitution was also amended to include references to the party's "absolute" leadership over the armed forces and a commitment to promote Xi's signature foreign policy and infrastructure initiative known as "One Belt, One Road." That initiative seeks to link China to Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Africa, Europe and beyond with a sprawling network of roads, railways, ports and other economic projects.

Women on trial visit airport where Kim Jong Nam was attacked

SEPANG, Malaysia (AP)—The two women accused of killing the North Korean leader's half brother toured the Malaysian airport Tuesday as participants in their murder trial visited the scene of the attack. The judge, prosecutors, defense lawyers and representatives of the women's home countries were escorted inside the Kuala Lumpur airport by heavily armed police on a tour meant to give the trial participants a better perspective of events as they unfolded. Indonesian Siti Aisyah and Doan Thi Huong of Vietnam appeared subdued at the start of the tour, which took a break about an hour later when Aisyah became emotional. She was seen sobbing quietly. She and Huong were given water to drink and when the tour resumed, both were being pushed around in wheelchairs. Prosecutor Mohamad Fairuz Johari said Aisyah had difficulty breathing, probably due to the heavy bulletproof vest she wore.

Australian forces to train Filipino troops on urban warfare

CLARK, Philippines (AP)—The Australian defense chief says her country will deploy forces to train Filipino troops on urban warfare following a disastrous siege by pro-Islamic State group militants on Marawi city in the southern Philippines. Philippine troops accustomed to battling insurgents in jungle terrain struggled for months to fight the hundreds of militants who took cover in buildings and houses in Marawi. Officials finally declared Monday that the deadly insurrection had been crushed. Defense Minister Marise Payne said Tuesday Australian defense forces would provide training on a range of urban combat skills to Filipino soldiers and marines in Philippine military bases to help combat the extremists' brutal tactics.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana says the Philippine military plans to build urban-fighting training centers for Filipino forces.

Teen kayaker says shark attack was like everything in 'Jaws'

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP)—A massive great white shark was thrashing in the water on top of an upended kayak. But an Australian dad couldn't see his daughter. In a matter of seconds, 15-year-old Sarah Williams surfaced and was rescued by her father and brother from the shark attack she says was "everything you picture in the 'Jaws' movie." The 4.5-meter (15-foot) shark struck from beneath the kayak, tossing Sarah into the water Sunday off the coast near Normanville in South Australia state. "I saw it when I was in the water with it. I saw what it was and I saw its fin," she told Nine Network television on Monday. She survived the ordeal with scratches and bruises.

World

IS came with a hit list, left Syria town in a trail of blood

BEIRUT (AP)—The Islamic State militants came into the Syrian town with a hit list. By the time they left three weeks later, more than 70 civilians had been killed—shot or beheaded, their bodies dumped in farms and ditches.

The apparent revenge killings in the town of Qaryatayn underscore the ability of the extremists to inflict heavy losses even when they're in retreat—and portend more violence as they fight to hang on to their last strongholds in Syria.

News of the gruesome slayings began to emerge late Sunday, after IS militants were driven out by advancing government troops.

Terrified residents said they watched the slaughter from their windows or in the streets.

One former resident said his surviving family members walked for miles to find cell phone coverage so they could tell him of the deaths of his uncle, two cousins and a fourth relative. Another uncle remains missing.

"They came into town with a hit list," said Abdullah AbdulKarim, adding that 35 of the 50 militants who overran the town late last month were originally from Qaryatayn. He said the militants accused many of their victims of collaborating with the government but many others were also caught in the revenge killing.

"Our curse is from within us," he said, speaking to The Associated Press from northern Syria, where he fled years ago.

Once a predominantly Christian town known for its ancient monastery, Qaryatayn has changed hands between IS and



This Saturday, Oct 21, 2017 frame grab from video, shows a body covered with a blanket in the street of Qaryatayn, a town in central Syria which was recaptured from Islamic State group militants on Saturday.

the Syrian government several times during Syria's civil war. Parts of the 1,500-year-old St. Elian monastery were demolished the first time IS took over the town in 2015 and thousands of its Christian residents fled, fearing the extremist group's brutality.

An AP video, filmed as Syrian government troops recaptured Qaryatayn on Saturday, showed several bodies lying in the streets. In the video, a town resident said IS "monsters" killed more than 100 people, including soldiers and civilians.

"These are people who don't know God, they don't know anything. They killed children and women with knives, they beat women, broke their arms," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity out of fear for his own safety.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said it had documented the killings of at least 128 people in Qaryatayn, including at least 12 killed by government forces on suspicion of aiding the IS militants.

AbdulKarim and Mohamed Hassan, an activist who runs the Palmyra Network News, put the death toll at 75 civilians, saying many more remain unaccounted for.

"It seems it was mostly re-

venge," Hassan said.

Another activist network, the Palmyra Coordination Committee, released the names of 67 civilians who were confirmed killed and said the number was likely to rise. It said at least 35 of the dead were found dumped inside a ditch.

Talal Barazi, the governor of Homs province, said IS "terrorized" residents for three weeks, adding that most of the dead were townspeople who

were government employees or were affiliated with Syria's ruling Baath party.

He said at least 13 residents remained missing and six bodies had not been identified.

IS militants relied on Qaryatayn's strategic location to defend another of their bastions, the historic city of Palmyra. With Russian backing, Syrian government troops regained control of Qaryatayn in April 2016. But IS, facing



Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

major setbacks in Syria and Iraq, launched a new offensive on the town in late September and recaptured it.

AbdulKarim said during the three weeks that IS controlled the town, the militants went door to door looking for people they accused of collaborating with the Syrian government.

He said his uncle, who was a local mayor, and two cousins were shot after they were taken to an undisclosed location.

"They took people to show them bodies dumped in an open area to let them know they were killed, but also to terrorize the public," AbdulKarim said. He said the extremists barred residents from burying their dead.

He said the advancing government troops also killed civilians, but residents were too afraid to report the government killings.

Catalan parliament to respond to Spain's planned takeover

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Catalonia's regional parliament plans to hold a debate this week on the Spanish prime minister's plan to take direct control of the region—a session many fear could lead to a vote declaring Catalan independence.

The president of Catalonia, Carles Puigdemont, asked regional lawmakers to debate options for responding to the takeover moves announced Saturday by Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy. Parliament's governing body set the debate for Thursday.

Rajoy wants to trigger a section of the Spain Constitution that would allow the central government to step in to run Catalonia. Firing all Catalan top officials and calling an early regional election are among the steps the prime minister wants to take with the constitutional authority.

The actions are Rajoy's response to the regional government claiming it had a mandate to secede from Spain based on an Oct. 1 indepen-

dence referendum Spain's top court had put on hold.

In Madrid, Spain's political parties designated 27 senators to study the government's request to activate the Constitution's Article 155. The group includes 15 members of Rajoy's ruling Popular Party, which means the request's approval is all but certain.

The commission is expected to invite Puigdemont to defend his case before a Senate vote Friday on the prime minister's plans.

The unprecedented standoff between authorities in Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, and the national government in Madrid could result in an extended period of social and economic turmoil for the region, a Catalan business group warned Monday.

The Barcelon-based Circulo de Economia said Catalonia may be heading toward "a prolonged and dynamic period when there is a lack of control, legal uncertainty and public unrest."

The effects could be "dramatic" in terms of the local economy and jobs, the business group said. It said early elections in Catalonia could help resolve the deadlock.

Deputy Spanish Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria said Rajoy might name someone to take control of overseeing the central government ministries that would be involved in running regional offices in Catalonia.

Speaking on Onda Cero radio, Saenz de Santamaria said once the Senate gives the green light, the Catalan government will be out office immediately. She said Puigdemont "will no longer be paid, he will not have a presidential signature" and will not be able to make decisions.

In Barcelona, Lluis Corominas, spokesman for Catalonia's governing Together for Yes coalition—accused Spain of acting "like a dictatorship" and called the use of Article 155 "an act of institutional violence without precedent."

WORLD BRIEFS

Kenya president says polls must be this week, despite doubts

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta said the re-run of the presidential election must go ahead as planned on Thursday, despite the chief electoral officer's recent statement that he cannot guarantee that the polls would be credible. Kenyatta met Monday with electoral commission chief Wafula Chebukati and said the commission has a responsibility to conduct the election, Kenya's Daily Nation newspaper reported. "We have made funds available for the IEBC (the electoral commission) to do its job. Now they really should deliver," Kenyatta said following the meeting, according to the newspaper. Kenyatta also addressed campaign supporters, saying that the elec-

tions must go ahead despite a boycott by the main opposition candidate, divisions within the country and disagreements within the electoral commission. Kenyatta's firm insistence the elections must be held Thursday added to a crisis atmosphere in Kenya, which is embarking on one of the most perilous weeks in its political history, with the criticisms of the elections a blow to a country once heralded as a beacon of regional stability.

Well-known Moscow journalist stabbed by attacker; in coma

MOSCOW (AP)—A well-known journalist for Russia's top independent radio station was stabbed in the throat Monday by an attacker who burst into her studio—the latest in a string of attacks on journalists and opposition

activists in Moscow. The assailant broke into the Ekho Moskvy offices and stabbed deputy editor Tatyana Felgenhauer, editor-in-chief Alexei Venediktov said. She is best known for co-hosting a popular morning radio show and also serves as deputy editor. Felgenhauer, 32, underwent surgery at a hospital and was put in medically-induced coma as doctors determine the best course of treatment, he said. The attacker, after being apprehended, told investigators he had been in "telepathic contact with Felgenhauer" for five years. The station said the attack was clearly premeditated. To get into the building, the assailant sprayed gas in the face of a security guard at the entrance on the ground floor then went up to the 14th floor, where the station's studios are.

The president of Catalonia, Carles Puigdemont, asked regional lawmakers to debate options for responding to the takeover moves announced Saturday by Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy. Parliament's governing body set the debate for Thursday.

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Focus

King's legacy still felt strongly as Thailand bids goodbye

By DENIS D. GRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUAY HOM, Thailand (AP) — Half a century has passed and the king is dead, but the villagers of Huay Hom still haven't forgotten the day Bhumibol Adulyadej descended by helicopter into their remote, impoverished mountain valley in northern Thailand and changed their lives forever.

The king, they recall, brought electricity and a road that replaced the trail they trudged over for eight hours to reach the nearest roadhead. Coffee growing was greatly expanded and soon supplanted opium harvests, reaching such high quality that Starbucks is now a steady customer. The village even reaped profits from the royal-assisted raising of sheep and wool weaving, a rarity in tropical Thailand.

So to thank the king on behalf of Huay Hom's 72 now well-to-do families, Kamchai Sawankitsomboon traveled more than 750 kilometers (466 miles) to Bangkok's Grand Palace. There, after standing in line for 13 hours, he prostrated himself before Bhumibol's coffin—one of nearly 13 million people to do so during a year of mourning that will all but come to a close with the late king's cremation this coming week.

The religious-like fervor surrounding this outpouring of grief stems from many things: nostalgia for the past, a very personal connection that millions of Thais felt they had forged with their monarch, and gratefulness, as in Kamchai's case, for the decades Bhumibol put in working on behalf of the country's have-nots.

Regarded as a stabilizing figure amid political turbulence and headlong modernization, the king's passing on Oct. 13, 2016 also evoked anxiety about what comes next as the country confronts the close of an era.

With his son King Maha Vajiralongkorn, a yet untested monarch, on the throne and an entrenched military regime promoting a meandering "roadmap to guided democracy," several Thai academics at a recent international conference said "the Bhumibol consensus" has been replaced by "politics of uncertainty."



In this Oct. 22, 2017, photo a framed image of the late Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej is displayed alongside images of Buddha at a shopping mall in Bangkok.

AP

"Thai people will never be the same again as Thailand will never be the same again," said Thitinan Pongsudhirak, a political scientist at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University.

Thais born when Bhumibol's reign began 70 years ago who are still alive today have known 30 prime ministers and a succession of coups, constitutions and economic upheavals. But until last year they had had only one king who many credit with steering the country through these crises and presiding over evolution from a poor rural society to a modern \$400 billion economy.

Many were imprinted with his image at an early age. His persona became a part of their lives.

Oraboon Imchai Bulut, a young businesswoman, vividly remembers seeing the king's portrait on the cover of her first school notebook. While she never met Bhumibol, a friend told her how

her grandfather's eyesight was saved by an operation sponsored by the king.

Waiting overnight to view the coffin, Oraboon brought along a photograph of her deceased father in what she said was "a last chance to say goodbye."

"People in their 40s, 50s and 60s still feel very much related, involved and attached to his reign. The millennials perhaps less because His Majesty did less of the public engagements (after his illness)," Thitinan said. "By and large the vast majority of Thais today would more or less collectively feel the same: we are grateful for the reign."

Criticism of the late monarch has surfaced in recent years. Some Thai and foreign analysts and activists say the king impeded the progress of the country's still fledgling democracy by wielding too much power and often siding with the military and other conservative forces.

Bhumibol's near deification, critics say, has in part been driven by royalist propaganda and buttressed by strict laws outlawing insults to the monarchy. Others have noted that a society relying too heavily on one individual rests on fragile foundations.

But such commentary has been largely subdued within Thailand as the nation prepares for the final farewell to Bhumibol, who died at the age of 88 after a prolonged illness.

He will be cremated Oct. 26 within a soaring, purpose-built \$30 million pavilion. Officials expect a quarter million people clad in black to attend an elaborate, centuries-old ceremony that is probably the last of its kind in Asia.

Bhumibol himself may prove to be the last monarch of his kind, someone embedded in the national psyche through his overreaching sway and historical circumstances.

"It was an extraordinary

time and he was just an exceptional individual suited for it," Thitinan said. "The country needed a lot of development so he spearheaded development projects. The country needed to keep away from communism so he was a rallying point, a unifying symbol against communism," he continued, referring to the Cold War when Thailand's neighbors fell to communist regimes and the country tackled a domestic, Chinese-backed insurgency.

It was during this era that many of the now more than 4,000 royal development projects were seeded.

In Huay Hom village, cradled in a 1,000-meter (3,280-foot), mist-streaked valley, a third generation of Christian inhabitants of the Karen ethnic minority relate how the Buddhist king built upon earlier help from American missionaries.

"Never a day goes by

while in the village without one of the old timers reminding me of that day," writes Richard Mann, who accompanied Bhumibol and his family on that first visit.

In an unpublished memoir, the American former head of a project to replace opium with profitable cash crops describes how the local church choir sang hymns to the royals in four-part harmony and how the elders were blunt in their requests for a road, a better school, medical clinic and electricity.

"All those needs," he wrote, "have been met."

Jirapan Davivongs, deputy secretary general of the Chaipattana Foundation which oversees a number of the royal development initiatives, said the projects will continue through government funding and other support.

But Bhumibol's most lasting legacy, he believes, was his concept of the self-sufficiency economy, which stressed smaller-scaled, sustainable production that could better withstand global shockwaves.

That notion gained traction when Thailand was hit by forces largely out of its control during the 1997 Asian economic crisis, although some regarded it more as an idealized throwback to an older epoch rather than a viable economic system for an already highly capitalistic, globalized nation.

How many of Bhumibol's words and deeds endure remains to be seen.

An editorial in the English-language Bangkok Post last week said that already in the past 12 months, state and other actors had failed in their pledges to follow in the king's footsteps.

It cited matters Bhumibol had opposed: excessive military spending, scandals in sustainable agricultural projects, eviction of landless people and the disappearance of conservation activists. "Merely paying lip service to his words and wishes is not enough," it said.

Thitinan said that with a greatly transformed Thailand, the time had come to recalibrate the old political order to include more institutions and players, not just the military, bureaucratic and royalist power brokers.

"Now we have to find a system not based on one individual," he said. "It cannot be the same as before."

Good Housekeeping

ON GARDENING: *Bolivian Sunset is dazzling shady groundcover*

By Norman Winter
Tribune News Service

Shady groundcovers that bloom are much sought after in the gardening world, and Bolivian Sunset holds one of the most beautiful opportunities. The name itself conjures up visions of exotic colors.

Bolivian Sunset is known botanically as *Seemannia sylvatica* and indeed is native to Bolivia and Peru. It also has another common name and that is hardy gloxinia.

It is cold hardy from zones 8 and higher though everyone can enjoy it as a containerized plant to be enjoyed on the porch patio or deck and likewise indoors. The caveat to all of that would be a desirable shady to filtered light location.

I would have told you that in Savannah, Ga., it seems to always be in bloom but alas a journey through all of my photos shows that I have always photographed it starting in September. Now, in mid to late October, it appears to be in full glory.

As a spreading ground-cover in Savannah, ours has spread outward forming a clump about 8 feet wide and deep. The plants themselves reach 12 to 18 inches tall and I would like it even if it never bloomed.

The leaves are lance-shaped, leathery to the touch and semi-glossy. So in a world of typical green leaves, the texture is much welcome in



The Bolivian Sunset gloxinia makes a dazzling groundcover or container plant for filtered light areas of the home or landscape.

the garden. The flowers, however, are dazzling.

The tubular blossoms are a fiery orange-red with a yellow throat. They are produced in abundance on the multi-stemmed little groundcover.

The blooming commences in the fall, late August to Sep-

tember in Savannah and will last until spring if not caught by frost. This is one reason why the plant is much sought after as a house plant.

In the landscape it may die back in zone 8 depending on the winter and then quickly



The Bolivian Sunset gloxinia brings in pollinators like this sulphur butterfly and small bees.

grow back. It spreads by underground rhizomes, which makes me think it may have opportunities in protected areas of zone 7.

Once you find yours, select a site with fertile organic rich soil that drains well. Ours is growing in next to an old 1920 home

that, though sandy, has had lots of organic amendments over the decades. But remember the light requirements of morning sun afternoon shade or high filtered light.

When grown in containers, you'll notice it quickly fills the pot with leaves, blooms and a

very rhizomatous root system that seems to have devoured your lush potting medium. This means as you choose to repot you can make more plants to give away or use in other locations.

In the landscape it would partner extremely well with hostas and ferns for an absolutely lush and dreamy forest floor. We are growing ours in close proximity to shampoo gingers, *Zingiber zerumbet* and Emperor hidden gingers for a tropical look.

As you might expect with the tubular flowers, it can bring in hummingbirds if they are still active in your area when they begin blooming. Hanging baskets or containers that are off the ground are more suitable. Here at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, small bees and sulphur butterflies seem to be the most frequent visitors.

Not many groundcovers are as pretty as Bolivian Sunset gloxinia. I hope you'll give it a try in your landscape or in a container that will beautify your home.

Norman Winter is director of the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens at the Historic Bamboo Farm, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, and author of "Tough-as-Nails Flowers for the South" and "Captivating Combinations: Color and Style in the Garden." Follow him at: @CGBG-gardenguru



The Bolivian Sunset gloxinia reaches 12 to 18 inches tall at the

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY
JOSE SABLÁN PALACIOS
Lovingly known as George

We thought of you today, but that is nothing new.
 We thought about you yesterday and days before that too.
 We think of you in silence, we often speak your name.
 All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.
 Your memory is a keepsake from which we'll never part.
 God has you in His arms, we have you in our hearts.

We, the family would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us as we commemorate the first death anniversary of our beloved husband/father/grandfather/great-grandfather unto eternal life.

Mass of the intent will be celebrated daily beginning Thursday, October 26th, 2017 at 6:00am at the Mount Carmel Cathedral through November 3rd, 2017.

On the final day, Friday, November 3rd, an appreciation breakfast will be served at Joeten-Daidai Social Hall.

With humble and sincere appreciation for your presence, thoughts and prayers.

Lydia Reyes Palacios and Children

Life & Style

Kelly on O'Reilly: Abuse, shaming of women has to stop

NEW YORK (AP)—Megyn Kelly took on her former Fox News Channel colleague Bill O'Reilly in blunt terms on Monday, revealing she had gone to her bosses to complain about O'Reilly's behavior and saying the size of a newly revealed \$32 million settlement of harassment charges made by a Fox analyst was "jaw-dropping."

O'Reilly responded, in part, by posting a copy of a thank you note Kelly had sent to him for a gift given at a baby shower.

The New York Times reported that O'Reilly had agreed to the \$32 million deal to set aside allegations that include a nonconsensual sexual relationship with former Fox analyst Lis Wiehl, bringing to six the number of harassment settlements involving him. The deal was reached a month before O'Reilly signed a contract extension and three months before O'Reilly was fired because of publicity



Megyn Kelly poses on the set of her new show, "Megyn Kelly Today" at NBC Studios on Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017, in New York. AP

about the cases against him. O'Reilly has said he's done nothing wrong.

More than just an embar-

rassment that Fox had hoped was in its rear-view mirror, the story could have costly consequences. Fox's parent

company, 21st Century Fox, is awaiting a decision by British regulators regarding its purchase of the Sky satellite tele-

New York attorney general launches probe of Weinstein Co.

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced a civil rights investigation on Monday into The Weinstein Co. following sexual harassment and assault allegations against its co-founder, Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein.

As part of the investigation, the prosecutor's office issued a subpoena seeking company records on harassment complaints and legal settlements to determine whether any civil rights and anti-discrimination laws were broken.

"No New Yorker should be forced to walk into a workplace ruled by sexual intimidation, harassment or fear,"

Weekly this month after he refused a request by newspaper's owner, Duncan McIntosh, to layoff half of the publication's staff.

Arellano says the OC Weekly owns the column and he has rejected an offer to continue it as a contractor.

"When I had my meeting with Duncan McIntosh ... he said he was open to me continuing the column on a 'contract' basis," Arellano said. "That's when I realized he was planning to keep the trademark on the column instead of giving it to me."

McIntosh did not immediately return an email from The Associated Press.

Satirical 'Ask A Mexican' column to end after decade run

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—The "Ask A Mexican" column, a satirical weekly installment about U.S. Latinos that once ran in more than three dozen alternative weekly newspapers across the country, is coming to an end.

The column's founder, Gustavo Arellano, told The Associated Press on Monday that the final version of the humorous installment will appear online for Albuquerque's Weekly Alibi. The column will not appear in the OC Weekly of Fountain Valley, California, the publication where the column began, he said.

The move comes after Arellano resigned from the OC

A woman who answered the phone in The Weinstein Co.'s media relations office said the company had no comment on the subpoena or news of the investigation.

One of Weinstein's former assistants in London, Zelda Perkins, spoke to the Financial Times about what she said was repeated sexual harassment toward her. Weinstein walked around nude in front of her, asked her to be in the room when he bathed and the producer would often try to pull her into bed when she went into his room to wake him up.

More than three dozen women, including Gwyneth Paltrow and Angelina Jolie, have publicly accused the entertainment mogul of abuse. Weinstein has denied allegations of nonconsensual sex.

Arellano said he opted not to continue the column under a different name and logo because it seemed like he would be "clinging onto the past."

The column, which began

in 2004 in OC Weekly and appeared in other newspapers two years later, drew national attention for asking readers to submit questions to Arellano about Mexican immigrants and Mexican Americans.

Questions ranged from readers asking why Mexican immigrants park their cars on their lawns to why Mexican Americans in Texas use yellow cheese with Tex-Mex dishes.

Arellano responded with

She told the paper she split a £250,000 settlement with another woman who she claimed was sexually assaulted by the producer.

Perkins told the paper for a story published Monday that she was required to sign a non-disclosure agreement—a copy of which she was not allowed to keep.

"I want to publicly break my non-disclosure agreement," she said. "Unless somebody does this there won't be a debate about how egregious these agreements are and the amount of duress that victims are put under. My entire world fell in because I thought the law was there to protect those who abided by it."

history and humor while also challenging stereotypes about Latinos.

"Ask a Mexican was my way of confronting the racism that Americans have thrown at my culture for over 150 years," Arellano said. "It wasn't just enough for me to yell and protest—I needed to do it with stats and satire."

He became one of the few Latino columnists in the nation where Hispanics remain underrepresented in newsrooms. A survey released this month by the American Society of News Editors, for example, found that less than 6 percent of newsroom staff is Latino.

of speaking out about sexual harassment," Kelly said she wrote to her bosses.

Kelly, on her NBC show Monday, refuted O'Reilly's claims that no one had complained about him, saying Fox "was not exactly a friendly environment" for women who had stories to tell about abuse.

She said she went to Fox leaders Bill Shine, who has since resigned, and Jack Abernethy, who is now president of Fox News Network, after her memoir was published last November with her anger about O'Reilly's suggestion that people who complained about their treatment at Fox were disloyal. Kelly had written in her book about alleged harassment by Fox's one-time leader Roger Ailes.

"Perhaps he didn't realize the kind of message his criticism sends to young women across the country about how men continue to view the issue

"of speaking out about sexual harassment," Kelly said she wrote to her bosses.

O'Reilly's attitude of "shaming women into shutting the hell up about harassment on the grounds that it will disgrace the company" is precisely how Fox got into the mess it was in, she said. Later Monday, she posted a copy of the email she sent to her bosses. "You've got a hell of a guy hosting that 8 p.m. hour," she wrote.

Kelly said she was told O'Reilly would be spoken to and, hours later, he said on the air that people who don't like what is happening in the workplace should leave or go to human resources. She said it's clearly not just Fox that handles the issue of harassment badly.

"This must stop," she said. "The abuse of women, the shaming of them, the threats, the retaliation, the silence of them after the fact—it has to stop."

Politics on display as Letterman receives the Mark Twain Prize

WASHINGTON (AP)—David Letterman was never known as a particularly political comedian, preferring a detached irony-drenched tone that favored the surreal and silly over topical humor. But there was an unmistakable political tint to much of Sunday night's ceremony to present Letterman with the Mark Twain award for American humor.

Several of the comedians honoring Letterman took shots at President Donald Trump and the general state of the country. More than one comedian quipped that the Kennedy Center's funding was about to be cut off mid-show. Meanwhile, the center announced that Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos was a Kennedy Center benefactor.

Late night host Jimmy Kimmel jokingly blamed Letterman for helping to bring Trump to power.

"It's like you went out for cigarettes one day and left us in the hands of our abusive, orange stepfather," Kimmel quipped.

He praised Letterman profusely, recalling a monologue he delivered on his show shortly after the 9/11 attack.

"You let us know it was OK to move on and OK to laugh again," Kimmel said. "Dave, you led the way for all of us."

But Kimmel also noted that in that same monologue, Letterman offered glowing praise to then-New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani, who

went on to become a vocal public Trump supporter.

"Well Dave, we all make mistakes sometimes," Kimmel said.

Comedian-turned-Senator Al Franken thanked Letterman for a post-retirement series of videos that he and Letterman recorded together designed to raise awareness on climate change. Comedians Martin Short and Steve Martin, a previous Mark Twain honoree, needled Letterman about his bushy white retirement beard with a line touching on the country's current divisive political atmosphere.

"Dave has always had excellent instincts. What better time than now to choose to look like a Confederate war general," Steve Martin said.

Speakers Sunday night included comedians John Mulaney, Amy Schumer and Jimmie Walker of the 1970s television series "Good Times." Walker gave Letterman one of his first jobs as a joke writer in Hollywood.

Schumer poked fun at Letterman's famed reputation for grumpiness, saying she performed on his show three times.

"By the end of my third appearance, Dave was no longer totally indifferent to me," she said.

Mulaney credited Letterman's appeal with his determination to mine humor from ordinary people, and occasionally their pets.

Pharmacists cited for trying to see Prince's medical records

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Three Indiana pharmacists have been reprimanded by state regulators for trying to access Prince's medical records within days of the music superstar's death last year.

The Indiana Board of Pharmacy issued letters of reprimand in the last three months and imposed penalties on the three after investigators with the state attorney general's office found they had tried separately to access Prince's medical records in April 2016 through a state database.

Prince died April 21, 2016, of an accidental overdose of the painkiller fentanyl.

All three pharmacists were found to have misused Indiana's online INSPECT database that pharmacists and physicians use to check controlled-substance prescription histories of patients.

Officials found that the pharmacists entered Prince's legal name and date of birth into the database within nine days of his death to try to ac-



cess his confidential records, even though they had not previously treated the musician who was from Minneapolis and lived in a suburb of that city.

Weinstein accuser Ashley Judd to be interviewed by ABC News

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC News says Ashley Judd will sit down with anchor Diane Sawyer for her first television interview since the actress-activist went public with allegations against movie executive Harvey Weinstein.



Judd, an early accuser of the now-disgraced Weinstein, has described an incident two decades ago in which she said he invited her to his hotel room, greeted her wearing a bathrobe and asked if she would watch him shower.

In recent weeks, dozens of women have accused him of sexual assault and harassment.

Weinstein has also been fired from the production company he founded with his brother.

The board issued a final order on Oct. 12 for Indianapolis pharmacist Katrina A. Kalb for attempting to access Prince's medical records one day after his death. The panel did not fine her, but ordered her to complete 12 hours each of ethics education and com-

munity service.

On Sept. 15, the board fined Selma, Indiana, pharmacist Kimberly M. Henson \$1,000 and ordered her to complete 12 hours of ethics education. The board found that Henson had tried twice to access the musician's medical records.

Orthodox believers protest movie about Russian czar's affair

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP)—About 20 Orthodox believers in Russia have sung prayers to protest the release of a movie about the last Russian czar's affair with a ballerina.

They gathered outside the Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg, where "Matilda" was shown Monday to a selected audience ahead of its release this week.

The film loosely tells the story of Nicholas II's infatuation with ballerina Matilda Kshesinskaya.

It has angered hard-line nationalists, and some Orthodox believers see it as blasphemous. The czar is glorified as a saint in the Russian Orthodox Church.

Nicholas and his family were executed by Bolsheviks in 1918.

Police last month detained several activists accused of setting cars on fire outside the office of the attorney for the film's director. Someone also tried to set fire to the director's studio.

Married man considers affair to replace dormant love life

DEAR ABBY: I'm in my 60s, fit, sexually able and I desire physical relations. My wife, because of health issues, is no longer interested in sex. In fact, it would be at least mildly painful to her.

I recently met a lady my age who is in the same predicament. She has a sexual appetite; her husband does not. She hinted she would be interested in being "friends with benefits." I didn't pursue the hint because it caught me by surprise and I wasn't quick-witted enough to follow up on it at the time.

I am wondering if such a relationship is acceptable with today's mores and the circumstances. No, I won't discuss this with my wife. It would only hurt her feelings and strain our relationship. Should I pursue the hint?

FOLLOW UP ON THE HINT

DEAR FOLLOW UP: I would not advise pursuing the "hint"—which appears to me to be more of a full frontal assault—without thinking very carefully. The problem with adulterous relationships is that more often than not, the spouse catches on. If you think that by not talking this out with your wife you will be sparing her feelings, you are wrong. When, not if, she finds out, she will be devastated.

As women age their bodies change, and sex can become

painful. But that can be remediated in many cases with prescription and other medications. It's possible they could help your wife. Of course, that's not going to happen unless she talks with her OB/GYN about the problem. And that won't happen unless you talk to her.

DEAR ABBY: I was unhappily married years ago and conceived a child by an ex-boyfriend. My son is now 31. I divorced my husband 28 years ago. He knew the baby was not his, but claimed him as his own son. He refused to do a DNA test when we were going through the divorce. He died a few years ago.

I am in contact with my son's biological father. They look identical, and my grandson looks just like his father and grandfather.

My guilt is consuming me. I want to tell my son that even though the dad he knew all his life is gone, he still has a chance to get to know another father who is his blood. On the other hand, I don't want to ruin my relationship with my son and grandchildren, whom I love very much. How can I tell the truth without hurting my son and our relationship?

RIGHTING A WRONG

DEAR RIGHTING: Better late than never. Your son

^{AP} In this May 19, 2013, file photo, Prince performs at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

The board gave Crown Point pharmacist Michael Eltzroth the same punishment and fine as Henson on Aug. 8 for a single attempt to access Prince's records.

Attorneys for Kalb and Henson did not immediately return phone messages seeking com-

ment Monday. A recording at a phone number listed for Eltzroth said the mailbox was not in service.

The attorney general's office filed administrative complaints against the three in June and July, and the pharmacy board held its hearings after that.

Attorney general's office spokesman Bill McCleery said complaints against medical professionals typically take the office between six and 12 months to investigate.

John Stamos gets engaged to girlfriend at Disneyland

LOS ANGELES (AP)—John Stamos picked "the happiest place on earth" to get engaged over the weekend.

The 54-year-old Stamos announced his engagement to 31-year-old actress Caitlin McHugh on Sunday on social media, writing: "I asked...she said yes! ...And we lived happily ever after." The post included a drawing of the couple standing in front of Sleeping Beauty's castle at Disneyland.

Stamos' publicist says the star proposed after showing

McHugh a montage of romantic scenes from Disney films. The couple then had dinner with their families at a restaurant in the theme park.

This would be the second marriage for both. Stamos was married to model and actress Rebecca Romijn from 1998 to 2005.

Stamos stars in Netflix's "Fuller House" and spent part of this year with The Beach Boys as a drummer. McHugh has had guest spots on "The Vampire Diaries" and "NCIS: Los Angeles."

New York real estate developer buys Trump drawing at auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York real estate developer and former business partner of President Donald Trump has bought a sketch of the Empire State Building drawn by Trump for \$16,000 at an auction.

Elie Hirschfeld, president of Hirschfeld Properties, purchased the 12-by-9-inch black marker depiction of the iconic New York City skyscraper at an auction in California and

online last week. It was created by Trump for a charity auction in Florida during the time he opened his Mar-a-Lago estate as a private club in 1995.

Julien's Auctions says the piece signed by Trump went for less than \$100 the first time it was sold.

In a statement Monday, Hirschfeld says he plans to hang it in his offices a couple of blocks from Trump Tower.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

needs to know that the man who raised him and claimed him as his own was not his biological father so that he can have a complete medical history. If the birth father wasn't interested in knowing or supporting his son, he sounds more like a sperm donor than a "blood" relative to me. Do not be surprised if your son isn't interested in knowing more about his birth father than the information I suggested.

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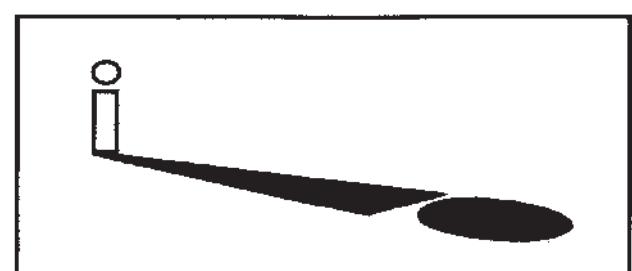
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Puig's joy powers Dodgers to first World Series

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Wagging his tongue, licking his bat and calling his shot, Yasiel Puig has powered the Dodgers' run to their first World Series appearance in 29 years.

Heck, the 26-year-old Cuban has even assigned himself a curtain call.

Puig's play and personality have been a huge hit on baseball's biggest stage. He's been shrewd at the plate and his arm is a cannon from the outfield. His emotional behavior has sparked the team while he's remained focused on the field.

"Crazy, funny, electric," backup catcher Kyle Farmer said in using three words to describe his teammate.

Puig made an entrance at World Series media day on Monday, interrupting Turner Ward mid-sentence to plant a smooch on the hitting coach's left cheek before picking his way through the throng to his assigned table.

Once seated, Puig bellowed for Ward to come over and return the favor. Ward complied, kissing Puig's right cheek.

"He give me a lot of information for this year and tried to get me to take it easy at the home plate and take the best pitch I can," Puig said in English. "He help me with my teammates. That's why I play better this year."

Puig's been a revelation of the best kind during these playoffs, quite the opposite of the defector who alternately delighted and bedeviled his manager, teammates and the Dodgers' front office upon making his big league debut in June 2013.

Puig hit .455 in the NL Division Series against Arizona, licking his bat, making faces and flipping his bat after a mere single. Those are the kind of antics that used to rattle his teammates and divide fans into those who loved his passion and those who felt it detracted from the team.

Away from the field, there were two reckless driving arrests eight months apart in his

Ronaldo joins Messi as five-time winner of FIFA player award

LONDON (AP)—Cristiano Ronaldo has caught up with Lionel Messi to become a five-time winner of FIFA's best player award.

The Real Madrid forward was crowned player of the year on Monday at the FIFA Best ceremony at the London Palladium theater attended by runner-up Messi and third-placed Neymar.

A second successive honor for Ronaldo was expected after a season in which the Portuguese eclipsed his award counterparts in the trophy stakes.

As well as Spanish league

rookie year. During games, there were foolish decisions on the base paths and in the outfield that maddened fans and the front office alike. Hamstring issues reduced Puig's playing time and production the last two years.

Things came to a head last fall when Puig got demoted to the minors and the Dodgers seemed intent on trading away their runner-up for NL Rookie of the Year in 2013. Suitably chastened, he rejoined the team that September and ended the regular season hitting .263.

"I care about him, I care about his career, I care about him more importantly as a

ored the Netherlands' success at the European Championship in August. Lieke Martens, who scored in the final win over Denmark, won the player's award and Sarina Wiegman collected the coaching accolade.

The Puskas Award for best goal went to Arsenal striker Olivier Giroud for a scorpion-style kick. The Puskas Award-winning goal from an overhead back-heeled strike came on New Year's Day in Arsenal's 2-0 victory over Crystal Palace in the English Premier League.



AP
Los Angeles Dodgers right fielder Yasiel Puig talks during media day for baseball's World Series against the Houston Astros, Monday, Oct. 23, 2017, in Los Angeles.

man Justin Turner said. "He's enjoying the game, he's having fun. He's doing the 2013 Puig things, but at a concentration level that's extremely higher."

Puig's tear has extended into the playoffs.

In eight games, Puig is batting .414—third-highest on the team. His 12 hits are tied for the team lead with Turner. The Cuban has produced six runs, six RBI and six walks. He has an OBP of .514 and a slugging percentage of .655.

Just three years ago, Puig struck out seven times in a row in the NLDS against St. Louis.

So far in these playoffs, he's struck out three times.

"The discipline," Turner said. "I think that's kind of what everybody has noticed more than anything. To me, that's mental. Watching him mentally grow and be more disciplined, that's been the biggest complement to what he's been doing."

Puig walked three times in one game against the Cubs in the NLCS.

New generation of ballplayers in Dodgers vs Astros duel

LOS ANGELES—Carlos Correa is such a fresh face, his first big league hit was assisted by technology.

When he made his debut for Houston on June 8, 2015, Correa hit a three-hopper off White Sox ace Chris Sale and was called out by first base umpire Larry Vanover. About a minute later, a replay umpire in New York overruled the call, and the 20-year-old had an infield single and his first RBI.

A new generation of ballplayers is featured in the World Series starting Tuesday night. Houston's dynamic infield duo of Correa and the diminutive Jose Altuve sparks the top offense in the major leagues. The tantalizing trio of Cody Bellinger, Corey Seager and Chris Taylor has the Los Angeles Dodgers in the Series for the first time since 1988.

"Media day in Oklahoma City was about two people there, and now I'm here and getting ready for the World Series," Bellinger said, surrounding by dozens of reporters in the Dodger Stadium's Dugout Club. "I could never imagine this."

Altuve skipped Triple-A and made it to the major leagues on July 20, 2011, after Houston traded Jeff Kep-

pinger to San Francisco. He singled off Washington's Tyler Clippard that night in his big league debut.

Houston finished last in each of his first three seasons. Now Altuve is among four Astros remaining from the team that lost a club-record 111 games in 2013, joined by pitchers Dallas Keuchel and Brad Peacock along with utilityman Marwin Gonzalez.

At 27, he's already a five-time All-Star and three-time batting champion.

"I'm coming from a team that lost a hundred games in a row three years, three straight years," Altuve said. "We made the playoffs in 2015. We didn't make it last year, and after last year we were a little uncomfortable because we were watching the playoff games from home."

Correa, the top pick in the 2012 amateur draft, was a first-time All-Star this season, hitting 24 homers and driving in 84 runs despite a torn ligament in his left thumb that needed surgery, causing him to miss 42 games.

Bellinger, son of former Yankees infielder Clay Bellinger, started the season at Triple-A Oklahoma City and made his debut April 25 at San Francisco. He found out

about his call-up at 2 a.m. after noticing he had four missed calls from Dodgers farm director Gabe Kapler.

At 21, Bellinger became the youngest position player in Dodgers history selected for the All-Star Game, set a National League rookie record with 39 homers and had 97 RBI in 132 games. Now he's talking to his dad about his three World Series appearances.

Seager, at 23 the youngest of three brothers who played pro ball, was a unanimous pick as NL Rookie of the Year in 2016 and repeated as an All-Star this season. He became the first Dodgers player since Jackie Robinson in 1947-48 with 30 doubles or more in each of his first two seasons, and his 52 career home runs is already second-most among Dodgers shortstop behind Pee Wee Reese's 122. He missed the NL Championship Series after hurting his back on a slide into second base in Game 3 of the Division Series but is expected to be in the starting lineup for the opener against the Astros.

He thought back to watching on television as Derek Jeter led the New York Yankees to the 2009 title.

Curry, Durant help Warriors pull away from Mavs



DALLAS (AP)—Stephen Curry scored 29 points, Kevin Durant added 25 and the Golden State Warriors pulled away from the winless Dallas Mavericks in the second half of a 133-103 victory on Monday night.

Klay Thompson had 21 points as the defending champs got back to .500 four games into the season, two nights after losing their cool late in a loss at Memphis.

This time, the Warriors calmly put away the Mavericks after Dallas cut an 18-point deficit early in the second quarter to one late in the first half. Golden State never trailed in its seventh straight win in the series.

Curry made all five of his shots inside the 3-point line and all 13 free throws the same day he was fined \$50,000 for throwing his mouthpiece in the final minute against the Grizzlies.

Thompson had consecutive 3-pointers to cap a 15-2 run that turned a two-point lead into an 83-68 advantage in the third quarter, sending Dallas to its second straight 0-4 start. The Mavericks lost a franchise-worst five straight to start last season.

Wesley Matthews scored 19 points for the Mavericks. Harrison Barnes had 13 points against his former team, matching J.J. Barea and Yogi Ferrell. Rookie Dennis Smith Jr. had 10 points after missing two games with left knee swelling.

Curry was just 2 of 10 from long range but made up for it by getting to the line. The two-time MVP has made all 39 free throws this season.

Durant was 9 of 15 from the field and 4 of 6 from beyond the arc as the Warriors shot 56 percent.

The Mavericks trailed 42-24 early in the second quarter before Matthews made all four shots, including a pair of 3-pointers, in a 10-point quarter. Dallas was twice within a point but never had a chance to take the lead.

Curry hit two free throws for a three-point halftime lead, then made one before play started in the second half when the Mavericks were called for delay of game.

Curry became the eighth player to reach 20,000 career minutes for Golden State in the first quarter. The Warriors improved to 34-7 after a loss under coach Steve Kerr. Curry and Draymond Green had eight assists apiece. Green scored 10 points with seven rebounds.

Suns 117, Kings 115

In Phoenix, Devin Booker scored 22 points, including



two free throws with 9.8 seconds to play, and the Phoenix Suns beat the Sacramento Kings on Monday night for their first win of the season in their first game under interim coach Jay Triano.

Phoenix fired coach Earl Watson on Sunday and guard Eric Bledsoe was sent home Monday morning after he sent out a tweet over the weekend that left the impression he no longer wanted to play for the Suns.

Despite the tumultuous stretch for the franchise, Phoenix shot 54.5 percent from the field and held on after Sacramento rallied in the final period. Marquese Chriss scored 19 points, and Mike James finished with 18.

The Kings have dropped three of four to begin the season. Garrett Temple scored 23 points for Sacramento, and rookie De'Aaron Fox had 19.

Bucks 103, Hornets 94

In Milwaukee, Giannis Antetokounmpo had 32 points and 14 rebounds, and the Bucks scored the final nine points in the win.

Antetokounmpo was 13 for 21 from the field and 6 for 8 at the line. He also had six assists and blocked two shots.

Khris Middleton added 20 points for Milwaukee, which played its third game in four days, all at home.

Charlotte, which missed its last seven shots after the score was tied at 94, was led by Frank Kaminsky's 18 points. Jeremy Lamb added 17 points, Kemba Walker had 15 and Dwight Howard grabbed 22 rebounds—three shy of the team record.

76ers 97, Pistons 86

In Detroit, Ben Simmons had a triple-double in his fourth NBA game, Joel Embiid scored 30 points and Philadelphia got its first win of the season.

Simmons had 21 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists, showing off the skill and versatility that made him the No. 1 pick in the 2016 draft before he missed all of last season with a foot injury.

Detroit, which rallied from a 21-point deficit to beat the New York Knicks on Saturday night, fell behind by 21 again in the second quarter against the 76ers. The Pistons chipped away and were within three in the fourth, but Philadelphia held on.

Andre Drummond had 14 points and 14 rebounds for the Pistons.

Grizzlies 98, Rockets 90

In Houston, Marc Gasol scored 26 points to lead the Grizzlies to another victory.

Memphis has won its first three games for the first time since the 2014-15 season when the team got off to a 6-0 start.

With the game tied at 88 with less than three minutes remaining, tempers flared after Memphis guard Mario Chalmers fell and tripped James Harden, who then shoved Chalmers as he tried to get off the ground. After a lengthy review, each player received a technical and Harden also was called for an offensive foul.

Harden finished with 22 points, eight assists and five rebounds. Eric Gordon led the Rockets with 27 points.

Heat 104, Hawks 93

In Miami, Josh Richardson scored 21 points, Wayne Ellington made six 3-pointers in the second quarter and the Heat wasted a 21-point lead before recovering to beat the Hawks.

Ellington scored 20 points and Goran Dragic finished with 19 for Miami, which went on a 17-6 run in the fourth quarter to help put the game away. Kelly Olynyk had

10 points and 10 rebounds, and Dion Waiters added 10 points for the Heat.

Kent Bazemore and Taurean Prince each scored 20 for the Hawks, while John Collins had 14 points and 11 rebounds.

The Heat started 14 for 24 from 3-point range, and then missed their final 13 tries from beyond the arc.

Spurs 101, Raptors 97

In San Antonio, LaMarcus

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) is chased by Dallas Mavericks guard J.J. Barea (5) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Dallas, Monday, Oct. 23, 2017. (AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez)

Aldridge scored 20 points and Dejounte Murray had 16 points and 15 rebounds, powering the Spurs to the win.

San Antonio was without Kawhi Leonard and Tony Parker, and Toronto played without Jonas Valanciunas. Their absences were noticeable in the flow of each team's offense.

The Spurs had a season-high 20 turnovers. They were averaging 11 turnovers in their first two games, but had four in the opening four minutes.

DeMar DeRozan had 28 points for the Raptors.

Wizards 109, Nuggets 104

In Denver, Bradley Beal scored 20 points, helping the undefeated Wizards to another victory.

All five Washington starters scored in double figures. John Wall had 19 points on 3-of-13 shooting and finished with 12 assists. Otto Porter Jr. added 17 points and 10 rebounds.

Denver center Nikola Jokic broke out of a scoring slump with 29 points. His running layup early in the first quarter ended a string of six straight quarters without a point.

The Wizards finished 26 of 28 from the free-throw line.

Wentz tosses 4 TDs, Eagles beat Redskins



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—

The Philadelphia Eagles keep losing key players and are still winning games thanks to No. 11.

Carson Wentz tossed four touchdown passes and ran for a career-best 63 yards, helping the Eagles overcome losing

nine-time Pro Bowl left tackle Jason Peters in a 34-24 win over the Washington Redskins on Monday night. Linebacker Jordan Hicks also went down with an ankle injury.

Peters was carted off the field and Hicks left the stadium on crutches. Coach Doug Pederson didn't have any updates on their status after the game.

"This is a resilient group and we've seen it over the first two months of the season," Pederson said.

They'll be fine as long as Wentz is under center.

The second-year quarterback made one highlight play after another in front of a national audience. Wentz has

led the NFL-best Eagles (6-1) to five straight wins and is an early front-runner for MVP.

"He is amazing," receiver Nelson Agholor said. "I talk about how great and how athletic he is and how he has a great arm, but the attention to detail, the film study, the professionalism he has is second to none."

Kirk Cousins threw for 303 and three TDs for the Redskins (3-3).

"Carson made some unbelievable plays there in crunch-time situations," Redskins coach Jay Gruden said. "We lost and it wasn't good enough by anybody, offensively. But Kirk competed and made some great throws, some great plays."

The Eagles went three-and-out three times in their first four drives and had only 57 total yards before Wentz hit Mack Hollins in stride with a perfect 64-yard TD pass to tie it at 10.

That got the offense rolling. Wentz connected with

Zach Ertz for 46 yards on the next series and found him again for a 4-yard TD pass to make it 17-10.

After getting the second-half kickoff, the Eagles drove 86 yards for another touchdown. Peters was injured during the series, and fans chanted his name while teammates surrounded the cart.

Wentz finished the drive off with a play that Peters would appreciate.

While being hit by two defenders and falling forward, Wentz lofted a 9-yard TD pass to Corey Clement.

Wentz fired a 10-yard TD pass to Agholor to expand the lead to 31-17. Wentz kept that drive alive by escaping a sack and running 17 yards on third-and-8.

Cousins tossed a 7-yard touchdown to Chris Thompson to give the Redskins a 10-3 lead. He connected with Jordan Reed on a 5-yard TD to cut the deficit to 24-17 and threw a 12-yard pass to Reed to cap the scoring.

Laniyo pitches Boleros past Papa Bears

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



J.J. Laniyo pitched four scoreless innings to lead the Boleros to a 17-2 crushing of the Papa Bears in the Masters division of the Saipan Baseball League last Friday night at the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field.

Laniyo gave up only two hits with a strikeout, and a walk before being relieved by Steve Igisaia at the top of the fifth. Laniyo also had two brilliant defensive plays against the Bears—a throw to shortstop Mark Toves to tag Mike Muna and end the first inning, and a 1-3 play against Nick Deleon Guerrero for the second out in the fourth.

On offense, the Boleros flexed their muscles by scoring seven runs in the second and five each in the first and third to win the shortened game.

George David went 2-for-3 to lead the Boleros' 13 hits against the Papa Bears' bullpen composed of starter Don Pangelinan, Nick Guerrero, and Greg F. Camacho. David also had a run and an RBI double in the fourth, allowing Gus Pangelinan to reach home, while the latter went 2-for-4 and had two doubles.

Gus Pangelinan had an RBI double in the first and later scored one of his four runs on a John Taitano RBI double.

Mark Toves went 1-for-3, including a two-RBI single in the first to bring in James Fleming and Justin Reyes, who reached on a Guerrero pitching error and a single,

respectively. Reyes had an inside-the-park home run in the second to go with his two runs and two singles, including an infield single in the third.

The Papa Bears got on the scoreboard at the top of the fifth, courtesy of Henry Lizama and Muna.

Lizama led off the fifth, get-

ting on base on a Gus Pangelinan error at third base and moving to second after Igisaia hit Carlos Camacho by a pitch before scoring off a Julian Salalila error.

The Boleros got then got the first out when Toves threw to Salalila to tag Carlos Camacho at second base. Muna got

on base on a fielder's choice in that play, moved to second on a Jojo Attao single, and advanced to third when Igisaia walked Greg F. Camacho. Lizama, with the bases loaded, came in as a pinch runner for Attao.

Muna scored on an RBI walk by Nick Reyes to again

load up the bases. However, the Boleros stranded the Bears' runners in an inning-ending double play with John Maratita grounding out to Toves, who threw to Sallila at second base. Salalila beat Nick Reyes at the bag then made the relay throw to David Kapileo at first base to get Maratita.

Gold Ballers, Empe Light top foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Empe Light Blue and Gold Ballers registered contrasting wins in the 2nd Ali'i Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League over the weekend at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Gold Ballers eased past Black Mamba last Sunday, 96-64, while Empe Light edged Vendetta last Saturday, 75-72.

Jerome Reyes and Sean Rabasto delivered for Empe Light in the homestretch, combining for the squad's last 9 points to hand their team its third victory in eight games. Vendetta remained winless in four matches.

Vendetta played catch up right from the get-go, falling behind by 20 after the open-

ing canto, 8-28. Sonny Lerio out-gunned the entire Vendetta crew after making 11 points to lift Empe Light to the double-digit lead.

Vendetta then cut the deficit to a manageable number after the third period with Raymark Castro and James Dela Cruz trying hard to keep the team in the game. The duo teamed up for 21 points in the next two quarters, while James Sablan added 7 to bring down Empe Light's lead to 13, 46-59.

Empe Light eventually lost the twin-digit spread, as it played a bit complacent in the last canto, while Gino Libuw, Dela Cruz, and Sablan attempted to pull off a come-from-behind win, but failed in the end.

Meanwhile, in the Gold

Ballers-Black Mamba tiff, the former also got off to a strong start, leading at 30-8, to post the 32-point win.

The Gold Ballers peppered Black Mamba with triples early in the game to establish a sizeable lead. Prince Factor drilled three triples and scored 13 points in the opening canto, while Raymond Velasco and Dan Mateo canned one triple each.

Factor continued his hot shooting in the second period to finish with a game-high 25 points, while Mateo, Velasco, and Dennis Cortez took over in the last two quarters to keep the Gold Ballers' wide distance.

The Gold Ballers improved to a 2-4 record, while Back Mamba absorbed its second straight loss after a 3-0 start.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Empe Light Blue's Sean Rabasto, center, is fouled by the Gold Ballers' Dan Mateo, left, while the latter's teammate Dennis Cortez provides help defense during their game last week in the IT&E-sponsored Ali'i Blue Haus caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

TEAM

From Page 28

while Manglona bested Castro by way of scarf hold chest compression. Mundo used a triangle choke in beating Peter Ayuyu, while Adriano sneaked in the rear-naked choke to force Nick Ayuyu to submit.

Manglona faced Manibusan in the first semifinals and the

former outsmarted his opponent by way of the Americana shoulder lock, while Adriano earned a finals spot after beating Mundo via the North-South choke. Mundo won against Manibusan in the battle for third via triangle choke.

Meanwhile, Team Tinian will be holding another grappling tournament on Nov. 4, Saturday, also at the Tinian Gym.

Academy won, 35-34. The Knights got back at the GCA Eagles the following season with a 39-25 win in the finals, but MCS lost in the finale of the next two seasons (versus Whispering Palms, 11-16 and SIS, 27-44). In the 2015-2016 season, the Knights edged Agape Christian School in the finals, 40-38, before the latter dethroned MCS in the 2016-2017 season, 33-19.

Meanwhile, Agape battled GCA in the second semis game last night, but results of the match were unavailable at press time. The winner of the GCA-Agape tiff will challenge Mt. Carmel tomorrow for the division championship.

MCS 41—Steele 12, Toves 12, Tenorio 4, Sablan 4, Naranja 3, Diaz 2, Borja 2, Galang 2.

SIS 18—Miyawaki 9, Nam 4, Sebastian 3, Kim 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-7, 23-9, 35-16, 41-18.

GALANG

From Page 28

his first championship in the bodybuilding event. The middleweight Mendiola defeated light heavyweight winner Aaron Tomokane in their head-to-head matchup for the overall bodybuilding title.

Galang, a Gold's Gym personal trainer, said his recent win was the result of months of hard work and maintaining a strict dietary plan.

"I trained six days a week with one rest day. I've been doing light training the whole year but before the DC Classic, I had two months of intense preparation," said the 25-year-old Galang, who is also in the U.S. Army Reserve.

"I make it a point to always find the time to work out because sometimes I had to fly to Guam for training with the U.S. Army Reserve."

Enrico Valdez came in at second behind Galang in the classic physique division, while Lorenzo Sanchez, Alberto Roberto, and Ben Salas finished second, third, and fourth in the short class.

Valdez, meanwhile, went home with the men's physique tall class title, while Mark

while Sean Japor took the teen physique tall class title.

Former two-time bodybuilding champion and 46-year-old Jun Riodique went home with the masters physique and the sportsmanship trophies.

Chom Star Gordon added another bikini title to her trophy cabinet, while Antonia Lizama won her first crown. Jocelyn Itibus topped the figure division, while Zoe Cruz claimed the teen pageant diadem.

Manellia Salinas ruled the fitness pageant beating Catherine Regalado, while Mary Jane Indalecio came in at third and Elvie Yagi was at fourth place.

Tina Palacios of Subway, Gold's Gym's Natalie Cruz, and Sami Birmingham-Babauta joined organizer Dee Clayton in awarding the trophies and medals to the winners. International Bodybuilding Federation professional bodybuilder Greg Monk of Guam along with international competitors and cousins Prince Toe Sr. and Grady Gary of California also graced the event as judges and guest posers.

Monk praised the efforts showed by all the competitors and encouraged them to push themselves further.

"There's a lot of potential here. CNMI bodybuilding can reach new heights. All they need is refinement," Monk said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	2	.667	—	
Brooklyn	2	.667	—	
Boston	1	.333	1	
Philadelphia	1	.250	1½	
New York	0	.000	1½	

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Memphis	3	0	1.000	—
San Antonio	3	0	1.000	—
Houston	3	1	.750	½
New Orleans	1	2	.333	2
Dallas	0	4	.000	3½

Southeast Division

Washington	3	0	1.000	—
Orlando	2	1	.667	1
Miami	2	1	.667	1
Charlotte	1	2	.333	2
Atlanta	1	3	.250	2½

Northwest Division				
Minnesota	2	1	.667	—
Utah	2	1	.667	—
Portland	2	1	.667	—
Denver	1	2	.333	1
Oklahoma City	1	2	.333	1

Pacific Division				
L.A. Clippers	2	0	1.000	—
Golden State	2	2	.500	1
L.A. Lakers	1	2	.333	1½
Phoenix	1	3	.250	2
Sacramento	1	3	.250	2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East				
W	L	T	Pct	PF PA
New England	5	2	.714	195 166
Buffalo	4	2	.667	119 101
Miami	4	2	.667	92 112
N.Y. Jets	3	4	.429	137 161

National Conference				

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PIC Saipan 50K Bike For Life

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ





Puig's joy powers
Dodgers to first
World Series

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Curry, Durant
help Warriors pull
away from Mavs

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MCS returns to finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School booked the first finals ticket in the middle school division of the 2017-2018 Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association Basketball League after dominating Saipan International School, 41-18, in their semis duel yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Galang shares DC Classic limelight



JON PEREZ

Gerald Galang shows off his winning physique to rule his division in last Saturday's Dee Clayton Classic held at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

DCC Gerald Galang held his own against a strong field of competitors to rule the men's physique division and share the stage with the rest of the winners in last Saturday's Dee Clayton Classic held at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

Galang went home with the men's and classic physique titles and was named overall winner in the short class aside from earning the Best Abs special award. His multiple awards allowed him to share the limelight with Donivan Mendiola, who won

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The Knights pulled away from the Geckos in the second quarter with Richard Steele and Merrick Toves teaming up in a pivotal 13-0 run to turn a shaky 10-9 lead to a double-digit spread at halftime, 23-9. Rafael Galang scored the other field goal for Mt. Carmel in the opening minute of the second canto, while Rintaro Miyawaki answered quickly for SIS before the As Lito-based squad's offense went cold, allowing the Knights to break the game wide open.

The Geckos failed to counter Steele's four straight baskets and Toves' string of five points, as the former committed errors and the Knights clogged the passing lanes, making it difficult for Miyawaki and Jabez Sebastian to get the ball inside and pull up for point-blanked shots. Miyawaki and Sebastian earlier cherry-picked in the paint in their 25-12 quarterfinal win over Marianas Baptist Academy last Friday.

SIS picked up its scoring a bit in the third period, but Toves and Steele kept going to help the Knights retain its double-digit advantage, 35-16, going into the payoff canto. Mt. Carmel then led by as much as 24 points in the fourth quarter and with the game

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mt. Carmel School's Richard Steele, right, fakes off the defense of Saipan International School's Rintaro Miyawaki during their semis game in the middle school division of the 2017-2018 Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association Basketball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Team Tinian holds first grappling event

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Team Tinian held its first open tournament last Friday at the Tinian Gym in San Jose in its continuing efforts to further promote the mixed martial art of grappling.

Team Tinian coach Allen Manglona led the eight entries to the weekend event and was joined by three MMA fighters who competed in last month's Rites of Passage 22: Rampage. The rest of the participants were newcomers.

Manglona topped the one-day tournament and won the \$20 cash prize by beating Kimo Adriano via scarf hold. Perry Mundo finished third.

Manglona said the inaugural tournament was a great experience and confidence builder to all, especially to the regulars who train with them.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two competitors in Team Tinian's inaugural submission grappling tournament try to outsmart each other during last week's event held at the Tinian Gym

"All competitors performed well and showcased their grappling skills. It was really a great experience and I believe competition like this can help increase the Tinian fighter's skill level and improve our

island's overall MMA game. I hope that Timian will have more grappling tournaments in the future," said Manglona.

He added that the inaugural grappling tournament was planned by Nick Ayuyu, who also provided the cash prize.

"It is one of our efforts to have the community of Tinian develop more interest in the sport and practice the art of submission grappling in a fun, safe, and competitive manner," Manglona said.

Nick Ayuyu, Peter Ayuyu, Juschery Castro, Vincent Manibusan, and Stefan San Nicolas were the others competitors in the inaugural grappling tournament.

San Nicolas defeated Manibusan in the opening match via armbar,

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